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ART. I. *The Brief Remarker on the Ways of Man: or Compendious Dissertations, respecting Social and Domestic Relations and Concerns, and the various Economy of Life; intended and calculated more especially for the use of those in the common ranks of American Society.* By EZRA SAMPSON. 12mo. pp. 421. Hudson. Stone & Cross. 1818.

WE learn from the title page of this book, that its subjects embrace "the various economy of life," and that it is intended "*more especially* for the use of those in the common ranks of American society." Its author is a venerable clergyman of this state, who has, with great benevolence, given the results of his long experience in "the ways of man" in this series of essays, one hundred and eighteen in number. They are not above the comprehension of any rational being, and are particularly adapted to a class of mind which the author styles the "well informed;" to which he assigns a rank between the erudite and the illiterate, and which comprehends, *en masse*, the most numerous, useful, and respectable portion of our countrymen. It was the opinion of Mr. Sampson some years ago, that popular instruction, not learned, deep, nor speculative, but addressed to common sense, in common life, might, if happily conveyed, produce

good effects. This object he is certainly qualified to promote, and with this view he commenced the "*Brief Remarker*." It was published in the Connecticut Courant, from the April of 1815, till the September of 1818. "The indications of the public favour," which induced the multiplication of these essays, have determined the author to this repeated and connected publication of them. "Old men and matrons—young men and maidens—the wedded and unwedded—householders of every description—husbands and wives—parents and children," are all offered these practical lessons, which, though not arranged in order, chiefly present three subjects—education, the conduct of domestic life, the true policy and moral nature of pecuniary transactions: to these are also added, many valuable reflections and maxims upon personal virtues and more extended relations.

The suffrages of the public seem to make new approbation almost super-

fluous; a continued demand, far beyond the writer's design, for the labours of his pen, and the wisdom of his age, amply evince the acceptableness and the utility of his productions; and the value annexed to them in the fugitive pages of a newspaper, is certainly augmented in the embodied form of a volume. We, who did not become acquainted with the "*Brief Remarker*" in his original communications and successive visits, feel particularly obliged to him, that he has given us a permanent monitor, and has shown us the face of a new friend, in this excellent book. We are interested in it for many reasons; not, however, because it abounds in new truth. Immutable morality, blessed be God, has been, like its divine Legislator, made manifest every where, and in all times; and if custom and casuistry have sometimes produced doubt and ambiguity—have sometimes defended the evil and the false, and have rejected the obvious and the safe; good affections and experience have enlightened reason, and led back the wandering with slow steps to the path of interest and duty. But the varied modifications of the social state, though they introduce no new principles, and rest upon certain and eternal foundations, yet they so change relations and affect the expediency of action, that they require a course to be traced peculiar to each, as much as the navigator, always exploring the same elements, and using the same instruments, requires the guiding-chart of every different coast. We therefore attach a higher value to the "*Brief Remarker*," because it is American. We do not esteem it with the partiality that prefers whatever is produced at home, for that reason expressly, but on account of the wise, local application of general principles, and our natural love for our benefactors, and for whatever does honour to our country. We honour the excellent purpose of the book; but it might have been as well designed, and yet have failed in a desirable effect, if it were not purified from all fanaticism and intolerance—from all empty theories and party spirit—from the least feeling of

contempt, or the least expression of derision. As the work of a clergyman, it inspires a favourable prepossession. No class of men stands higher in our affection and respect than those of this profession; none commands more general deference and influence in our country, and indeed in all countries. A religious sentiment doubtless created this power at first; and nothing more plainly proves man's homage to God than this external offering to him, through the persons of his ministers. In all periods of society, among all people who acknowledge any revelation, (and what nation or tribe, savage or civilized, is there which has not some traditionary inspiration?) we find an order of men created by their fellow-men, supported by society, and listened to as interpreters of the divine will. The power of operating upon other minds is extremely liable to be abused by those who possess it, but it is also favourable to good feelings and exalted designs, and frequently induces the tenderest concern and the best efforts for human happiness. To do good and to communicate wisdom, is happily the constant aim of many of the most enlightened men in our world. Whatever may be said of the selfishness, blindness, and dogmatism of priests, and much may be said with truth, there are enough of honourable exceptions to justify the confidence and esteem of mankind. Avarice, and the love of domination, are the vices of orders, rather than of individuals among them; and the persecuting spirit which their former history has exhibited, has often been cherished by the instigation of princes, or the demands of popular superstition. Their wealth, where they have enjoyed any, and their peculiar privileges, have been rather given and secured to them by society, than forcibly obtained by themselves; and in those states which have resumed such appropriations, we do not find this class of men annihilated, but there still remain pastors and teachers, exerting more talent, rendering more services of love to the world, for less "value received," than those of any other voca-

tion. We can never forget our obligations to them in one age of the world, nor fail to remember, that when the faith and institutions of the church were eminently opposed to the developement and exercise of reason, yet its ministers preserved those precious lights, "like lamps in sepulchres," by which men relumined the torch of truth. There are many reasons why men of the clerical profession should be more disinterested and enlightened than those of ordinary occupations. They have few hopes and fears for their own external welfare; their temporal condition is for the most part early established, and its advantages or disadvantages must be enjoyed or endured; the cares of self-love are thus necessarily abridged; removed from the distraction of business, and the possible dissipation of affluence, they are left to the cultivation of science and letters—to the advancement of the moral interests of society—to the contemplation of God and virtue. The habits of previous education, the motives and the means set before them, open, almost of necessity, large and high views of God's works, of what man owes to his Maker and to his reciprocal relations, of what he may hope and fear, and what he can perform and endure.

The ministers of the Roman Catholic religion, by assuming the right of absolution, have acquired an insight into the human mind, altogether without parallel, in the opportunities granted to other men. They have prevailed upon their proselytes to make them "as gods, knowing good and evil;" they have rent the veil which hides the naked soul, and gone down into those depths which common penetration cannot so much as measure; doubts and anxieties, opinions and passions, motives and temptations, crimes and errors, contrition and justification, are all displayed before them; boasting their commission from the Searcher of hearts, disclaiming rival passions and contending interests, invested with authority, yet touched by compassion, and pledged to inviolable trust; they have a key to every chord that vibrates in the human bosom; and

by their affecting mediation between an offended Deity and sorrowing, suffering guilt, they are supposed to disarm Almighty vengeance; and they blend the holiest, sublimest sentiment with the most familiar and affectionate, when they utter the message of divine forgiveness in the accents of human pity.

We have sometimes thought that the ministers of the reformed faith, were not so well furnished with means to become acquainted with mankind; that the very sanctity which is annexed to their persons and their function, excluding them from the scenes of pleasure, of traffic and of vice, extremely circumscribed their opportunities of observation; and that their views of human nature were thus rendered less true and intimate than those furnished by equal and promiscuous intercourse. Society must appear to them with a more uniform aspect than to persons of more extended observation, and in such relations to them as individuals, also, as to conciliate their prejudices and affections towards mankind. In their presence the profane man restrains his impiety, the frivolous his impertinence, the sordid his vulgar speculations, ignorance sits in decent silence, and hypocrisy often puts on the fair face of devotion; the weak and the wicked agree to make these cheap concessions as a small tribute to religion. In listening to the public discourses of the preacher, men assume their best manner, refrain from action, and tacitly acknowledge the superiority of their teacher. These circumstances altogether, contribute to hide from him the distinguishing characteristics of his fellow-creatures, in their diversity and exact measure, and consequently we often hear the monitions of the pulpit rather drawn from theological theories, than from experimental knowledge of virtue and vice, or with any precise application to the circumstances of our life and conduct. But however the Protestant clergyman may be limited by his experience, the liberty his mind enjoys in other respects is highly favourable to his wisdom and usefulness. He

is permitted to bring free thinking to the service of faith, and use reason in inquiry; he is restricted by no premised results, but commanded to search into the evidences and to declare the meaning of truth; to investigate the connexion between the dispensations of God and the obligations of his creatures; between this palpable theatre of mortal action and the future state of moral, progressive, and retributive existence: all this must fix, strengthen, and give energy to reflection; must lead a man of vigorous conception to examine what is presented to him with peculiar discrimination, and induce a habit of analogical deduction almost as certain and safe as observation itself. The limitations of experience that we have mentioned as peculiar to the divine, however frequent, and in some degree inevitable, are not invariable, or to any great extent compulsory. The pulpit, the study, and the parochial visitation, do not completely confine the views of the clergyman; he may, and he often does, with decorum, partake of amusements, observe the political, legal, and commercial transactions of life, sufficiently to feel the passions which animate them, to understand the interests discussed in them, and to see the different degrees of blindness and intelligence, of generosity and selfishness, of moderation and excess, of happiness and misery, that mark the character and condition of this chequered being.

The author of the volume from which we have so widely digressed, appears to have availed himself of all the resources of the profession. Books and reflection have aided his power of discernment, and benevolence tempers all his inferences and instructions. But because his heart is full of good will, he is not therefore blind; he never loses discrimination in charity, but bestows censure where censure is due, and correction where it is necessary; and like him who pitieth his children, and him who had the feeling of our infirmity, he regards human frailty with tenderness, and he exhorts the erring with much cogency and good nature; he

looks abroad upon nature as the work of a Father, and regards all the family of that universal Parent as the offspring of love and the heirs of mercy, particularly blessed in moral endowments and privileges, and commanded by their interest as well as their honour, to the cultivation and expression of all good affections, to pity and forbearance, to equity and liberality, to courtesy and sympathy. He not only recommends the regulation of the feelings, but inculcates the virtues of industry and prudence, temperance and cheerfulness, we think, very happily, with brevity that never tires, with the fulness that excludes obscurity, and the vivacity that engages attention. He seldom repeats himself, and enforces his precepts with well-selected anecdotes and appropriate examples. His views are enlarged and distinct; he comprehends both extremes of a principle, understands the use and abuse of a privilege, and builds his theory of right and expediency upon the foundation of a middle path, neither demanding too many sacrifices nor too many efforts, but regulating self-love by extended knowledge, general interests, and moderate indulgences. He regards the age in which we live with that just discernment of its felicity, and that grateful sense of its improvements and advantages, that are truly edifying. We think we can trace a great affinity of principle and sentiment between him and the venerable Franklin: the same moderation and simplicity; the same freedom from all hardness and bitterness; the same protracted cheerfulness; the same mild, humorous satire, and almost the same sententious and expressive style of reproof and instruction characterize both.

The remarks upon education are particularly valuable. Treatises upon this subject are abundant and excellent, but perhaps the very amplitude of them obstructs their utility. So much reasoning and so many comparative systems, seem to defy ordinary patience, and serve to justify the indolence that neglects this important subject, on account of the thinking which it requires; but a few striking

facts and fundamental maxims, in a comprehensive form, are irresistible, and enforce a duty as much upon the heart as upon the understanding. The following observations are so just, that when they are uttered, they are immediately acknowledged as of the utmost importance, and yet most people act as if they never knew them:

"Good education is the thing in the world the most important and desirable, but it is of wider scope than most people imagine. What is called learning is only a part of it, and so far from being the most essential part, it is but the *husk*. In vain will you employ your endeavours to educate your children, unless you give seed to the heart as well as the understanding; unless you make their moral frame the subject of your assiduous and well directed care; unless you take at least as much pains to make them well principled, and of virtuous manners, as to make them shine in learning and accomplishments: for intellectual improvement, if their morals be neglected, will tend to render them wise only to do evil. If you train up your boy to a strict regard to truth, honesty, and integrity, and to a deep reverence of all that is sacred; if you train him up in habits of industry, temperance, and love of order—it is then, and then only, you can reasonably expect that he will pass through the perilous crisis before him uncontaminated, and that his manhood will be crowned with honour."

No. XXIV contains some very good thoughts upon the subsequent degeneracy of wonderful children. There is reason to believe, that children who exhibit extraordinary talent, are endowed with gifts, which, if suitably cherished and employed, would prolong a corresponding superiority through every stage of life; and that when they appear to sink prematurely to the common level, their distinguishing powers were either imaginary or adventitious, or have been blighted by negligence or mismanagement. Mr. Sampson supposes that vivacity is often presumed to be genius; that adulation frequently makes a child of parts "think himself too wise for instruction, and too important for advice;" and that a false dependence upon natural force of intellect, occasions the idleness and foolish self-confidence that ultimately obstruct the improvement of talent, and produce

that disappointment of presumption which checks all future effort, and stops the misguided mind far short of its attainable eminence. To those intrusted with precocious intellect he suggests these salutary truths.

"The natural gifts of the mind are dealt out with a frugal hand; to none so abundantly as to supersede the necessity of mental labour; and to few so sparingly, that they may not, under the enjoyment of suitable means, and with well directed industry, attain to a respectable standing for knowledge, and whatever of difference there is between mankind in regard to the original powers of their minds, the most common and the greatest difference between them, arises from a diligent cultivation of these powers on the one hand, and a slothful neglect of them on the other. With respect to intellectual as well as to worldly treasure, it is the hand of the diligent that maketh rich; while the sluggard who neglects to cultivate and improve his mind, will find that mind, a wretched waste at the age of fifty, of however great promise it had been at the age of *twenty*."

In No. XXX, "Of the brood of Idlers," some considerations are offered, with strict regard to the liberty of the citizen, and the welfare of the state, which we think worthy the attention of the civil authority.

— "As children in some sense or other, do actually belong to the community so it ought to be in the power, and made the duty of the political guardians of the public welfare, to see that they be brought up in such a manner that they may be likely to strengthen and adorn, rather than weaken and deprave society. For which reason, when idle profligate parents are manifestly leading their children in their own footsteps, they ought to be taken from the dominion of such unworthy parents, and be placed under the care of those who would accustom them to habits of virtuous industry. It would be an act of charity to the children themselves; and would give to the general community a vast number of sound and useful members, who, else would grow up to prey upon its earnings and poison its morals. If all suitable pains were taken with the rising generation to induce them to sober and industrious habits, by example, by the incitements of persuasion, and even by reasonable force, whenever force is necessary, the effects would be happy beyond measure. An infinite mass of mischief and crime would be prevented; the officers of justice would have little to do; our jails would comparatively, be empty."

The necessity of making children labour and think for themselves, the bad consequences of checking the operations of mind, and of anticipating the wants which the first efforts of strength and ingenuity can be taught to supply, are well enforced in No. XLVI.

"The highest and most important part of the art of teaching, is to learn the young mind to think for itself, and to exercise and exert its faculties of judgment and understanding, as well as of memory; for these faculties grow and increase only by exercise. The less they are exercised in childhood the more feeble they come to be in manhood. And as children should be taught to think for themselves; so also should they be inured to the exercise of those mixed faculties that call forth the exertion of the body and mind conjointly. If children be made to help themselves as soon and as much as they are able, it wonderfully conduces to the improvement of their faculties, and has at the same time an auspicious influence upon their dispositions. Whereas if they be accustomed to have every thing done for them by others that others can do, the rust of sloth, and the canker of pride will be apt to spoil whatever nature has granted to them."

No. XLIX, "Of teaching children to lie," announces rather a startling subject, which all moral persons, with good intentions, but without the capacity, or unaccustomed to the practice of calculating moral causes and consequences, will presume to be exclusively addressed to the extremest ignorance, or the most shameless depravity. But unhappily the ignorant and the profligate are not alone in the pernicious habit which is here re-proved. Kind mothers, faithful servants, indulgent nurses, too often undermine the sacred love of truth, and often blunt all accurate perception of it. It was matter of astonishment to Mr. Locke who reasoned from the known influence of example and instruction, that all manner of vice did not *more abound*, that more licentiousness did not grow out of excessive indulgence, more revenge out of the retaliation inculcated in children, more habitual falsehood and blindness out of the deceptions they discovered, and the prejudices enjoined upon them. Common experience informs us how little integrity subsists in the intercourse between

maturity and infancy; how many punishments are threatened which are never inflicted; how many disingenuous, half-promises are given to repulse importunity, or from the want of authority; and how many absolute lies are uttered, to create a necessity for submission which ought to proceed from the habit of obedience. When the results of this management become obvious, when the child aims to conceal much that he does, and designs; when he learns to misrepresent almost every fact that comes to his knowledge, and to deny every fault he commits, then the history of his character is accounted for by a false theory—the *natural propensity to lying*. But those who kindly, and accurately observe children, know that though it is easy to make them lie, by direct command, it is not easy to make them understand a lie, or a fiction, as such. A child who heard the vulgar hyperbole "*it rains cats and dogs*," and who went to the window to see the prodigy; and another who asked her instructor, "*should I write verses*, would one of the muses come to teach me?" were genuine, though simple illustrations of the natural love of truth.

Mr. Sampson justly imputes the habit of lying to injustice and excessive punishment. To prevent this evil he recommends that children be not led into this temptation; that those to whom they are entrusted,

"be not overmuch prying and severe, in regard to the mere frailties common to childhood. Many things you must overlook, or not seem to observe, unless you would render your government over your children both odious and contemptible. Never deceive your children in word or deed. Never fail to reprove them seriously for any, and every act of falsehood and equivocation, that you may find them guilty of; however much your vanity be flattered with the cunning and dexterity of the little deceivers. Whenever they frankly own a fault, whilst you blame them for the fault, forget not to commend them for speaking the truth about it."

The error "of overdoing in governing children" is further enforced in another place, and despotism shown to be as productive of error in individuals, as of un-

happiness in the state. Children brought up in fear do not love their parents.

"Of some it breaks the spirits, and renders them unenterprising, tame and servile, in all the succeeding periods of their lives. Others, who have more native energy of mind, and stiffness of heart, it makes exceedingly restless: and whenever these can get aside from parental inspection, they are particularly rude and extravagant in their conduct. With longing eyes they look forward to the day of emancipation from parental authority as to a jubilee; and when the wished-for time has come, they are like calves let loose from their stalls. The transition is so great and sudden that it wilders them; and it often happens that their ruin is involved in the first use they make of their freedom.

"The first step is to teach the infantile subject implicit obedience to parental authority; and then to rule with such moderation and sweetness, that it shall entirely love and trust the hand that guides it."

No. LXXXIII, "Of the inquisitiveness of children" is a kind of petition for the little creatures who so often interrupt our arguments, and check the flights of matured imagination by ill-timed and reiterated inquiry, concerning things with which we have been so long acquainted, that we have forgotten our primitive ignorance, and feel as if these elements of truth were in fact inherent. But the faculty manifested by these simple questions indicates a principle,

"whereby we are distinguishable even more clearly, than by the principle of reason from the brute animals, of which several kinds seem possessed of some small degree of rational faculty, but very seldom, or never, manifest an inquisitive curiosity after any kind of information." "A great deal might be made of the curiosity so natural to children. If rightly managed it would be the main spring of intellectual improvement. Were their inquiries properly encouraged, it would lead them to think for themselves; would put them upon the exercise of their reason as well as of their memory; and would settle in them the habit of inquiry. At the same time, whenever there were observable in them a forward pertness, it might easily be checked, without dampening their curiosity by parents or teachers possessing any considerable degree of prudence and skill.

"But all this requires a considerable degree of toil. It is by much the easier way, barely to give the child a lesson to learn by heart, and whip him if his memory fail, than to aid in enlightening and enlarging his un-

derstanding. And so we generally take this easier way. We stop their little mouths whenever they presume to interrupt or puzzle us with their questions, and instead of encouraging them to short subjects for themselves, we confine them to our own prescriptions. We pinion the young mind and then bid it soar."

It is no part of Mr. Sampson's system of moral discipline "to scold men out of their sins," to beat children, or excessively to mortify them. He justly remarks that

"children, possessed of more than common susceptibility of shame, may be injured for life by putting that distressful feeling to a too severe trial; and others may be made shameless by shaming them too often; while a temper naturally stiff and unyielding, may be turned to revengeful, and made desperately malignant, by impressions of injustice and cruelty experienced in the season of childhood."

This indulgent spirit is guarded from the extreme to which it is liable, in a subsequent essay on "the early and ardent desire of power." Of *natural propensities*, this cannot be denied to be one, and it may be admitted without depreciating the excellence of human nature, for while its abuse is the source of all the persecution and oppression, the extortion and bloodshed, which have called forth so many tears and curses in the world, it has compassed sea and land, unfolded the riches of nature, and distributed the products of art; has made the ignorant wise, and the miserable glad. Thus arises a question on the bearing, which discipline should have on this predominant passion.

"In weeding a garden we take great care, lest with the weeds, we root up also some precious plant. In like manner should we endeavour to weed as it were, the faults out of the minds of our children; looking diligently that we neither spoil nor mar what eternal wisdom has planted in them, or any part of the natural constitution of their frame. If, then, the love of power be a part of the radical constitution of man, the proper method of education is not to eradicate, but to temper and curb it. The contentions of little children, first with their mothers, and afterwards with one another, are the germen, as it were, of the contentions of grown men, which fill the earth with violence and blood.

"If it were generally made a main part of education, (as assuredly it ought to be or

Christian education,) to learn children to curb their wills and to respect the rights and feelings of one another, an auspicious revolution in the affairs of the human kind might be reasonably looked for. A new and happy era might be expected when fighting and killing will not, as always hitherto, be the principal subject of the history of man; when the fame and renown of men will no longer be built on the destruction of their fellow-men."

"No restraint, however, should be imposed upon childhood but such as is salutary and of obvious necessity. Every needless restraint is tyrannous in its nature and hurtful in its consequences. The child should be habituated to passive obedience, and, at the same time, be permitted to enjoy freedom in things indifferent;—to speak as a child, to act as a child, to be lively and playsome as a child."

"Over young minds, the law of love might be made to have a much more powerful influence than penal laws. Much more easily are they drawn and guided by their affections, than driven by their fears; the tenor of the former being spontaneous, steady, and uniform, while the latter operate only by occasional excitement."

"You have the fastest hold of the child that you draw by 'the cords of love.' By these cords can you draw him with ease. Delighting to please, and of course dreading to offend you, it is in your power to imprint in his mind indelible characters; to weed out his wayward propensities; to awaken his emulation; to stimulate his industry; and to mould him to sentiments and habits preparatory to excellence in after life."

"Experience abundantly evinces that infamous punishment has rather a pernicious than a salutary effect upon full grown persons. Few culprits, if any, were ever made better by means of the whipping-post and stocks; or by cropping their ears, or by infixing a brand of infamy upon the forehead or the hand. Instead of being led to amendment by these means, they are generally rendered more desperate and abandoned."

"The principle of 'love' appears to be the deepest and broadest in the human soul, the first expressed, and the last effaced; that which calls forth our virtues and reforms our perverted hearts, which prevents our selfishness from encroaching upon the felicity of others, and even excites the intellectual powers more efficiently and worthily than any other motive. This last operation of it upon the faculty of attention which is truly the application

of all faculties, is well illustrated in the memorable example of Lord Nelson, whose utter aversion to the sea was changed to ardent preference for the nautical profession, by the judicious encouragement of his uncle, Captain Suckling."

"It would not," says Mr. Sampson, "be too much to assert, that the victory of the Nile was an event in connexion with the impressions made on the tender years of Nelson by Captain Suckling."

"The true power over children, is that of swaying their inclinations; the power of withdrawing their inclinations from one direction, and settling them down to another. It is not hard words nor hard blows that can gain this point."

"The habit of attention is never wrought in them by operating upon their fears. The dread of pain might indeed force them to the performance of their tasks; but they would still perform it as a task, and with any other feelings than those of delight: whereas a proper attention springs from a real delight in what they are about. This is wrought in them by awakening the more generous feelings of their nature—the love of esteem and the desire of excelling."

The general diffusion of knowledge, as the foundation and security of virtue, the and as a means of enjoyment, is highly recommended throughout these essays; and yet, with such consistent qualification as to show that the principle of gradation and subordination is a truth which the author is earnest should be universally enforced, to prevent the repining of unreasonable discontent, to check the vain aspiring of moderate talent, and to excite in every man the proper exertion of his relative ability, and the careful cultivation of his peculiar resources. The trite dogma "a little learning is a dangerous thing," is shown to be a traditionary quotation, which, the times in which it originally became popular, the authority of its first assertor, and his particular application, often made proper enough a century ago, when pedantry and arrogance naturally grew out of general ignorance; but now that the attainments of reading and spelling correctly, and of speaking and writing grammatically, are not the distinction of a few, no man's humility is

endangered by the most free or moderate use he can make of these acquirements.

"In the wise economy of nature there is a remarkable correspondence between the common standard of human capacities and the common occupations of life; in so much that a general enlargement, as well as a general contraction of the natural capacities of mankind, while in this world, would be destructive of their interests. The first would set them *above* the ordinary business of life, while the last would reduce them *below* it; and, in either case, the consequences would be deplorable.

"If mankind generally were endowed with the capacious understanding of Bacon and Newton, or with the creative fancy of Shakespeare, while they would be 'feeding on thought,' and wrapt in profound contemplation, or forming and combining in their minds innumerable gay and sportive images, there would be no man to till the ground; the agricultural and mechanical employments upon which life depends, would be despised and neglected, and such a race of philosophers and poets would soon be consumed by famine.

"Any one is well learned, who is fully adequate to his business and station. It is no disparagement or inconvenience to a farmer, a mechanic, or even a merchant, that he is not able to solve a problem in Euclid, or to construe Homer or Virgil; that he is not a proficient in the Newtonian philosophy, in Belles Lettres, or in any branch of scholarship else. If his learning be adequate to all the business of his calling, and to the various relations he stands in toward his Maker and towards society, it is sufficiently extensive.

"Common learning, like cents and little pieces of silver, is daily and hourly needed in the general commerce of life; whereas deep erudition is like large bank bills or ingots of gold, very needful in their place, but needful only to a comparative few."

The aggregate value of this current coin, and of the greater accumulations, is very justly appreciated in the following passage:

"Learning, conjoined with science, and resulting in a high degree of civilization, is the procurer of all the embellishments and delights, and most of the conveniences and comforts of our present condition; the civilized world being now almost as much above the condition it stood in when classical learning was first rising on Europe in the fifteenth century, as it then was above that of the hordes of roaming savages. Add to this, the pleasure of learning, like that of religion, is not confined to time and place,

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nor dependant upon the smiles of fortune; it may be enjoyed in solitude, in penury, and in old age: which last does sometimes, if not always, increase rather than diminish it."

We shall now close the observations upon whatever relates to the formation and discipline of mind: those we have selected from the "Brief Remarker" are far from being a summary, but they serve to exhibit the soundness of the author's judgment, the comprehensiveness and clearness of his views. However, we owe to one class of useful men, engaged in the advancement of this great object, a few words of encouragement and praise.

"One who, besides possessing in full measure all the other requisites, is an adept in the science of managing a school; who knows the avenues to the minds and hearts of his pupil; who can seize alike upon their hopes, their fears, their emulation, and can combine these jarring affections, and, as by mechanical force, can make them all minister together for improvement; who has the faculty of encouraging the timid, of giving hope to the despondent, of repressing exuberant vanity, and of 'teaching the young idea how to shoot,' even in minds backward to learn:—an instructor thus gifted, and possessed withal of excellence of moral character, together with a sincere affection for his pupils, and a fondness for his calling, is one of the most useful, and ought to be regarded as one of the most estimable of human beings."

The duties of domestic life, and all these founded in the great law, *Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself*, constitute almost all the remaining subjects of the volume. Prudence, politeness, and delicacy in the application of this rule, are the genuine expressions of benevolence; how much of its efficacy depends upon discernment and habitual refinement of feeling, as well as the general sense of equity, we think well inculcated in No. XVI.

"Vast favours are seldom bestowed, and heavy obligations are seldom incurred; it is the constant interchange of little obliging attentions, that constitutes *conubial happiness*. It springs from an uninterrupted series of little acts of mutual kindness, light as air of themselves, and costing little or nothing, but of immeasurable importance in their consequences; as they furnish the only kind of food which will long sustain that delicate kind of friendship, and as the absence of these small attentions occasions

first coldness, then distrust, and finally alienation."

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"If we extend our view to the larger circle of social intercourse, which comprehends relations, friends, and acquaintance of every kind and degree, we shall find that the frequent interchange of courteous attentions and petty kindnesses is the thing that keeps them united and pleased with each other; and that in default of this, they presently lose all relish for one another's company."

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"Hence we become attached to those who are in the habit of treating us as if they thought us worthy of their particular notice and regard, and, at the same time, secretly cold and resentful toward such as habitually neglect us in these latter points; even though the former have never done us a single important favour, and the latter have, in some *one instance* or other, essentially befriended us.

"With regard to neglects and trespasses in those little things which constitute the main substance of social life, the worst of it is, that they are incapable of free discussion; and, of course, the wounds from them admit of no healing. We are deeply touched with omissions or slights, for which it would be ridiculous to expostulate or complain. They leave a sting which secretly rankles in our memories, and festers in our imagination; and inwardly we feel sore, while we are ashamed to fret outwardly; the cause of our provocation being an indefinable, nameless something upon which we can never ask for an explanation, and consequently can never obtain satisfaction."

"True enough, all this is often ill-grounded, or the offspring of mere jealousy. But that makes the case more remediless, for ill-grounded enmities are the most obstinate; because as their causes exist altogether, or chiefly, in the imagination;* the imagination is so ever busy in colouring and magnifying them. Whereas when the offence, though real, is of a definite form and shape, it may be got over. I have seen two friends dispute and quarrel violently about an affair of moment, and then settle it, and presently become as kind and loving together as ever: and I have seen other two friends, who never quarrelled together at all, become first cold, and at last utterly estranged by

* This theory of gradual suspicion, coldness, and hatred, will be found well explained in Stewart's chapter on imagination, (*Elements of Philosophy*, vol. 1.) and illustrated by M. D. Stael, in the example of Rousseau. (*Essay on the genius and writings of Rousseau*.)

reason of a neglect or slight, on the one side or the other, which, of itself, was too trivial to be so much as mentioned to the offending party."

We apprehend that friendships changed to enmities upon slight causes, are always thus changed by a defect in the character of the individual in whom the changes are operated; by superficial affections, and magnified self-importance: mutual kindness, candour, just self respect, are too agreeable; to love and to be loved is too sweet a pleasure to be relinquished, but for a moral reason, or at the suggestions of selfishness and pride.

There are many other essays of great practical utility, the excellence of which partly consists in their entireness. Of these, that on the "Inestimable benefits of Law;" No. XXVII, "Of the salutary effects of the necessity laid upon man to labour;" No. LXXI, "Of banqueting upon borrowing;" No. LXXXI, "Of the world;" No. CXV, "Of despising small things," possess a peculiar claim to consideration, as confutations of prejudice, and exhortations to cheerfulness, gratitude, and circumspection.

If the style be characterised rather by homeliness than by elegance, the most enlightened and cultivated reader will perceive that the writer's views assimilate him to those elevated minds whose writings he has read and enjoyed; and that in respect to manner, he conforms himself not to "the *upper* ranks of society," or to the learned, but to other grades of men; that instead of fame, he proposes to himself "the humbler, but yet more useful object of philosophy on the common concerns of mankind; and in pursuance of this object, to convey his thoughts in fewest words, and in terms intelligible to all; and rather to draw the attention of the reader to the subjects discussed, than fully to discuss them."

R. E.

ART. 2. *Considerations on the Impolicy and Pernicious Tendency of the Poor Laws; with Remarks on the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons upon them; and Suggestions for Improving the Condition of the Poor.* By CHARLES JERRAM, A. M. Vicar of Cobham; one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Surrey. 8vo. pp. 157. London. 1818.

IN no former age has the subject of pauperism been so fully investigated as in the present. Some of the most intelligent writers on political economy, have taken great pains to point out the immediate causes which, in modern times, particularly in England, have plunged an unusual number of our fellow-men into poverty and misery. But philanthropists rest not here. They endeavour to devise means by which the sum of human wretchedness may be lessened;—we say *lessened*, for every man who is not visionary, readily acknowledges that a thorough remedy for pauperism is sought in vain. If there is something inherent in the very constitution of society, which forbids the hope of ever finding a complete remedy for the disease, can it be said that it admits of no mitigation nor relief? Not individuals only have turned their serious attention to this important subject; the evil has become so alarming, so widely operative, as to attract the notice of government. Many of our readers are probably acquainted with the recent luminous reports of the two houses of Parliament on the Poor Laws. From these important documents, it appears that the principle of compulsory provision for the poor, which took its rise in the reign of Elizabeth, has resulted in a truly mischievous system. By this artificial and (we might say) unwarrantable “process of interference,” the urgent law of self-preservation has been tampered with; the instincts of relationship have been impeded in their operation; the sympathies and the attentions of neighbourhood have been superseded; and the powerful workings of generous and compassionate feeling have been damped and discouraged. In short, the system is ruinous. Pauperism, with its concomitant wretch-

edness, has increased with the augmentation of the poor-rates.

In this country, the same principle has been adopted in providing for the necessities of the poor, though not on so defective and large a scale; and the application is, comparatively speaking, but of a *few years*. In England, it has been fostered and established during *centuries*. Still we have been taught by experience that the principle is wrong, and detrimental to the best interests of society.

Though the general tenor of the interesting work before us is appertinent to England, it is nevertheless fraught with valuable information to the American reader.

The reverend author expresses a sincere desire “to throw into the general treasury of charity the mite of information with which many years of close attention to the wants of the poor, and some years of experience as a magistrate may have furnished” him. He arranges his observations under three heads:

“I. That all hopes of entirely removing the evils of poverty are vain:

“II. That the present administration of the system of the poor laws tends greatly to aggravate these evils: and,

“III. That the means which bid the fairest for success lie within the poor themselves, under the direction and assistance of the legislature, in conjunction with prudent and active charity.”

Under the first proposition the author remarks, that

“every passage of the Old and New Testament, which inculcates charity as a duty, intimates that there never will be wanting persons who will have a claim upon it.

“But if the Scriptures had been silent on this head, the history of every country and every age in the world, would place this fact beyond the possibility of a doubt. During the nearly six thousand years the world has existed, in every spot where human

beings have been found, poverty has also found a residence. It is true, that it presses more heavily in some countries than in others; but every where it does press: and tens of thousands, in the best governed and most charitable kingdoms of the world, are every day groaning under its oppressive hand. Much may be done to diminish the number, and mitigate the severity of its evils, but no efforts of man will be able to banish it from the world."

If these "best governed and most charitable kingdoms in the world" possess sufficient vigour, prudence, and honesty, to profit by experience, and with one accord to exemplify the principles of Christian polity, the burden will soon be less galling.

By some very just considerations on the proportion between the natural increase of population, and the provision which nature has made for the support of that population, the author continues to fortify the remark, that

"No state therefore of society ever did or can exist, in which will not be found innumerable needy human beings."

We have somewhere met with the assertion, that the causes of pauperism are "misfortune in one instance, misconduct in fifty." For aught we know, this may be a proper estimate. Our author observes,

"It must however be acknowledged, that there are innumerable cases of extreme poverty, which cannot be directly charged on the improvidence or misconduct of the sufferers. The very state and condition of human nature, as we have seen, as well as the direct appointment of God himself, as a memorial of his displeasure against sin, impose the evils of poverty on a great part of mankind, and subject them, by an irreversible law, to a state of considerable suffering. This is not the place for entering on a discussion on the justice of this law, and its consistency with the sentiments we entertain of the infinite benevolence of the Supreme Being, though much is at hand to vindicate both; yet I cannot omit this opportunity of observing, that the principles on which the Christian religion is founded, and the prospects it opens of a better world, afford a very powerful, if not an effectual remedy to the evils of poverty."

That religion assures us, that "the evils of this life are corrective and medicinal, and, comparatively, but of momen-

tary duration." Every thing which afflicts *the good*, can be made subservient to their contentment and happiness. The present afflictions of the virtuous proceed from the hand of a Father, who never chastens but "for our profit." The *Christian*, though he may be destitute of this world's treasures and enjoyments, has many resources and pleasures, which are strange to "those *irreligious and profligate poor* who are fed with the bread of affliction here, and have no prospects for the future." For them every pious mind must feel the deepest commiseration, for they are poor indeed! "They lose both worlds."

"The evils, however, of poverty, small as they are, when viewed in relation to a future and eternal state of existence; and salutary as they may be to correct what is wrong in our nature, and fit us for the enjoyment of a better world, yet, considered in themselves, and in connexion with our present state of existence, are far from being trivial, and demand every alleviation which wisdom can suggest and affluence supply."

After a train of such excellent remarks, with which every enlightened philanthropist will concur, the author proceeds to discuss his second proposition. In endeavouring to expose the ruinous tendency of the present administration of the system of the English poor laws, his leading and ably supported arguments are: *It creates the evil it professes to remedy. It holds out encouragement to the idle, the thoughtless, and the profligate, by securing to them all the advantages they could have derived from sobriety, prudence, and industry. It breaks the link which connects the best feelings and best interests of the poor with their natural friends and patrons. It obviously decreases the interest which poor parents feel in the fate of their children.*

The author adds to this catalogue of evils, that *the system stands in direct opposition to the order and government of God himself. It strikes at the root of the benevolent and charitable feelings, and renders abortive all measures for bettering the condition of the poor; and, lastly, it tends to universal pauperism!*

Next comes a discussion of the subject of remedies to these numerous and portentous evils. The inquiry is not merely, in what way the evils incident to a state of poverty may be best mitigated? It would not be difficult to give an answer. But, "unhappily," says the author,

"this is not the question with which we are now concerned, except as it may serve to mark the point from which we have wandered, and to which every step should be directed in retracing our former errors. The inquiry with us now is, by what means we may extricate ourselves from the embarrassing difficulties, and augmented wretchedness, in which the present improvident system of relieving the poor has involved us."

The author cautions against the attempt at a sudden change, lest it might produce a revulsion, which would shake the very frame of civilized society; and justly remarks that whatsoever remedy be applied, it must be of the *alterative* nature,—slow and almost imperceptible in its operation, but gradually advancing towards a renovation of the entire system. He points out the fallacy of various remedies which have been suggested, and even proposed in Parliament. He is decidedly opposed to the plan of making the maintenance of the poor rather national than parochial; and considers another, that the poor rate should be merged in that of the county, and every parish receive its necessary supply from the general fund, as in principle nearly allied to the former.

As the valuable work before us, is probably in the hands of very few, if any, of our readers, we deem it a duty to offer them such extracts as may be particularly useful here, when the subject of pauperism receives an unusual degree of attention; and when recently formed societies, in several parts of the United States, are devising measures to meliorate the condition of the poor, and to *prevent pauperism*.

"It appears then, that under existing circumstances, all that is practicable is a cautious reform of past errors in the administration of the system of the Poor Laws; and an encouragement of such measures as seem likely to promote those moral qualities and habits among the poor, which may ultimately supersede, in a great degree, if not entirely, compulsory relief."

"Our first step must be a revision of the present system of administering to the wants of the poor;—and nothing can be effectually done in this way, till we have clearly ascertained what persons have a just claim to such assistance. In the present state of things, both young and old, the robust and infirm, the idle and profligate, and characters of the worst description, advance their claims, and have them allowed: this surely ought not to be endured; some distinction must be made; some regard to the circumstances which have induced a state of want must be paid; and I will venture to recommend that no individual shall be entitled to parochial relief, either in money or employment, who, in the ordinary course of things, by the exercise of common prudence, sobriety and diligence, might be supposed capable of rendering himself independent of such relief. No refuge should be held out for idleness, improvidence, or vice; and the law should exhibit an inflexible stoicism to those who voluntarily place themselves in circumstances of difficulty or distress. It is the order and appointment of God that such characters should suffer—and the suffering itself is a merciful warning to others, to avoid the rock on which they are wrecked. It is false humanity to provide for such:—God has made no such provision, nor should man. In cases of peculiar distress, or where a sense of past follies has wrought a reformation, the hand of private benevolence will never be wanting to administer the necessary relief. But yet relief should come as an undeserved boon; not as a legitimate claim. What a source of abuse would this single regulation cut off? Magistrates are continually placed under the distressing necessity of ordering relief for men and women, whose improper and often abandoned conduct has rendered them unfit inmates for any decent families; and these wretches are often sent to parish work-houses, where they corrupt the morals of the poor by wholesale, and send forth into the world characters initiated in every species of vice, and fully instructed in the most effectual means of contaminating and ruining all with whom they come in contact. It is the highest degree of cruelty and injustice to show any favour to these: and it would be an act of greater humanity to leave such individuals to reap the whole fruits of their profligacy than to expose others to their destructive influence. Who would think of introducing a man infected with the plague into crowded habitations? and yet such an individual deserves pity, for his disease is his misfortune, and not his sin;—still we should seclude such an unhappy person from all intercourse with society, whilst we admit the moral pestilence to diffuse its fatal poison freely in all directions."

In a note to this, the author adds:

"I am perfectly aware that the sentiments here expressed will appear to many harsh."

and severe. There is a class of men who have lost their character, and who without some public assistance, must be either left to want or driven to crime. For such, some provision must undoubtedly be made; but it is such as a bridewell will afford, and not that which shall bring the man hardened and irreclaimable in vice, in contact with the rising generation of the poor, to give them a complete education in every species of profligacy and crime. To do this would not be humanity, but the excess of cruelty. Effectual means should be taken to place such characters in penitentiaries, where they may undergo a quarantine, till the public has some security that they may be admitted into society, without the fear of their communicating contagion."

Our candid author enters into detail, and indulges in very few remarks on some parts of the Report of the Select Committee on the Poor Laws. But his discussion is dispassionate, and its object is laudable. Some prudential measures are suggested, which should be acted upon if the virtuous sufferer, and the profligate pauper is an object of salutary treatment. "Provident institutions" are considered; and at the head of them all, "as likely to be of the greatest ultimate advantage," the recent establishment of *Saving Banks*.

"I say 'ultimate advantage,'—for the benefit of these institutions, must, in a considerable degree, be remote, because it is chiefly to the young, and those who have hitherto been oppressed with no heavy burdens, that they hold out the facility of providing for the future, for only such will be able to make the necessary deposits."

We fully agree with the author, that these institutions may become "chiefly" valuable to the "young." However, we would state, that so far as the experiment has been made in *this country*, where *Saving Banks* have been established, and conducted in a judicious manner, the resulting advantages have not been so limited; but have been extensively felt and enjoyed even by persons who are advanced in years, and who are thereby encouraged to persevere in industry and frugality. We are informed that the managers of the "Society for the Prevention of Pauperism in the city of New-York," intend to apply to the Legislature of the State, for an act to establish a

Saving Bank in this city. We wish them success. Every good citizen who feels an interest in the salutary means which, by that enlightened, indefatigable, and highly respectable board, are devised for the prevention of pauperism, must heartily concur in such an application. Indeed, we do not conceive how any unbiassed and sincere mind can find the least objection to a measure, which is so manifestly fraught with incalculable advantages to society at large. Let us hear our author on the importance and necessity of *Savings Banks*.

"There could scarcely have been a happier thought than that of providing the means by which the smallest sums may be secured and turned to the most productive account. The idea scarcely ever enters the mind of a servant, or day labourer, who earns something more than his present wants demand, that the small redundancy may be turned into advantage for the future; and hence, such are tempted to spend a portion of their time in idleness, satisfied with just acquiring what is necessary for their present support, or, what is equally common, to throw away their little gains upon the most foolish trifles, or worse than waste it, in public houses; and in those few instances, where a prudent young person has laid by a small sum for future emergencies, how often has he been induced to lend it to some treacherous friend, who never intended to restore it; or if he did, never took the proper steps to have it in his power to do so; or to deposit it with some tradesman or banker, as a place of safety, and has lost his all, by the unexpected, but too common insolvency of the individuals in whom he had confided. But these institutions remove all difficulties on this head. They exhibit examples of small savings having accumulated into considerable sums in the course of a few years, and every instance of this kind is the strongest inducement to others to imitate so profitable a speculation,—if speculation that can be called, which insures a great benefit without the least risk."

"These institutions are likely also, to form the greatest barrier against imprudent marriages."

And the author further observes, that

"They will also induce a habit of care and economy in the other sex."

And,

"The moral which such institutions teach, is of incalculable benefit. They practically illustrate the importance of little things

Nothing could seem a matter of much less importance, than whether an individual save or expend his shilling at the close of every week; and yet in the course of a few years the difference is made most striking, by an exhibition of rags and wretchedness on one side, and comfort and independence on the other."

Benevolent Funds, to which there are *benefit* and *free* subscribers, are also recommended. The author states the plan and manner of distributing from the benevolent fund in his own parish, and speaks in high terms of its happy effect, in affording pecuniary relief, and *useful employment*. But whatever may be the means which local circumstances and active benevolence will suggest for bettering the condition of the poor,

"nothing which wisdom can devise, or charity execute, or the legislature enforce, can really benefit them, irrespective of their own habits and character. In order to insure right practices, we must instil moral principles. To neglect this, would be to build without a foundation."

The benevolent author, and with him every philanthropist, deplores the many artificial sources of vice, poverty, and misery; and he finishes the catalogue of demoralizing causes among the poor,

by taking a view of public houses, "those hot-beds of vice, those nurseries of the rankest weeds which infest the political enclosure."

When we reflect on the multifarious causes of immorality, independent of the evil propensities of the human heart; and if we consider the fact, that there are not sufficient houses of religious instruction in our own, as well as in English cities, to accommodate the poor, and others who might be encouraged to frequent places of worship; when we seriously attend to the awful truth, that thousands, *on account of obstacles which could be removed*, are ignorant of religious principles, and strangers to the blessings of Christianity, living "without God in the world," we must be truly alarmed at the fearful result.

We cannot close this article more appropriately than with the remark which the author reserved for the conclusion of this valuable book, a book which cannot be perused without much instruction and deep interest:

"ALL EFFORTS WILL BE ABORTIVE WITHOUT MORAL CULTURE. MAKE THE POOR CHRISTIANS, AND THEY WILL NOT MAKE THEMSELVES PAUPERS."

K. N. R.

ART. 3. *A Narrative of Voyages and Travels in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres: comprising three Voyages round the World, together with a Voyage of Survey and Discovery in the Pacific Ocean and Oriental Islands.* By AMASA DELANO. 3vo. pp. 598. Boston. E. G. House. 1818.

IN 1790 an expedition was fitted out from Bombay, by the East-India Company, consisting of two vessels, the *Panther*, a snow of about two hundred tons, and the *Endeavour*, a smaller snow, under the command of Commodore John M'Clure, the object of which was, to explore the Pelew islands, New-Holland, New-Guinea, and the adjacent islands. The *Panther* and *Endeavour* sailed from Bombay in August, 1790. In April, 1791, the author of the narrative, an American recently discharged from a United States'

ship, the *Massachusetts*, joined the expedition at Canton, in China, and remained with Commodore M'Clure till July, 1793. The various observations upon the different places just mentioned, with remarks upon the state of society, the different productions, &c. form the first and most interesting part of Captain Delano's book. As he avows his purpose to be, "not only to give useful information in regard to trade, navigation, countries and their laws, but to encourage good moral sentiments, and impress the value of good examples,"

we think he has very judiciously prefixed, to the detail of their adventures, a general character of his companions. We insert it with pleasure, as a tribute to merit, and as a refutation of the prejudice, that men bred to the sea, however characterized by courage and generosity, indulge themselves in a license of manners and sentiment which disregards the ties, and abandons the duties of the domestic state; and while they are distinguished by the reciprocation of good feelings among themselves, and by fidelity to the individual, or to the country, in whose service they are engaged, they are indifferent to the morals or the welfare of those whose interest and virtue may be influenced by intercourse and transactions with them. This opinion may be just in many instances, but we hope that honourable exceptions to it are frequent, and that the instance before us is not as rare as it is exemplary and commendable. Speaking of the officers and marines employed in this expedition, the author says:

"They were all North and South Britons by birth, had been educated in good schools in England and Scotland, and entered young into the navy, or into the Bombay marine. They had never known any but the public service. From the youngest midshipman to the commodore, not one had arrived at the age of thirty. They had not been exposed to any degradation of sentiment, or of moral feeling, by that miscellaneous intercourse with nations in the pursuits of trade, which has too often corrupted the mind and character, through the temptations of avarice and commercial policy; especially when at a distance from home, and free from the responsibility to superior officers, as a substitute for the influence of the social relations upon conduct, in the midst of friends, whose good opinion and offices of kindness and confidence are necessary to happiness. They were, in principle and practice, honest, ingenuous, and honourable; despisers of meanness and duplicity in every form; just and generous in the common duties of life; respectful to each other in their familiarity and playfulness, and faithful in their friendships. It deserves to be particularly mentioned, that they encouraged in their conversation, and regarded in their conduct, high and honourable sentiments towards women. Their ideas of the importance and sacredness of the marriage relation, and of the character

of the wife, were such as wise and good men, in a pure state of society, would rejoice to approve and disseminate. In the variety of countries and people where they visited, and the effects of different manners and institutions upon the communities, they had an opportunity to acquire a practical liberality of mind, while their estimate of the pre-eminent value of the domestic virtues was continually exalted. Let it not be supposed, under the dominion of prejudices which are too common on shore, that this is a kind of praise but ill adapted to a sailor's life and habits. From my own observation, and the virtues of more fellow-seamen than I have room to name, I am able to meet this misrepresentation, and to affirm the extensive influence which moral, domestic, and religious feelings have over their hearts, their conversations, and their hopes.

"There is another article in the conduct of this expedition, which ought to be mentioned as equally honourable to my companions and worthy of imitation from others. Their treatment of the natives was uniformly just, honest, generous, and friendly; no impositions were practised upon their credulity; no mercenary advantages were taken of their ignorance; and no treachery was used toward their interests after making professions of higher principles and better forms of society among Christian people. The impression left upon the minds of the natives in every place, must have been favourable to us, and useful to them. It could not but have excited in their minds many reflections, and probably some resolutions, upon the subject of using the means of civilization, and seeking the blessings of such a religion as ours. It is my deliberate opinion, that most of that of which we complain in the character and conduct of the natives of different countries towards us, is owing to ourselves, to our avarice and cupidity, our selfishness, and the disregard of our own principles as we have at first announced them. If all voyagers, travellers, and missionaries had treated the natives as honourably and wisely as they were treated by Commodore M'Clure and his companions in the expedition, we should not only have enjoyed uninterrupted friendship with them, but should have gone very far toward the accomplishment of their civilization, and the introduction among them of our own forms of society and religion."

The vessels left Canton April 27th, 1791, held a prosperous course till the 14th of May, and then anchored at Port San Pio Quinto, one of the Babuyan Islands. Here a harmless imposture was practised upon Delano, which gives rise to some valuable reflections, and may dis-

vert the reader. Dr. Nicholson, the surgeon, and Lieutenant Drummond, willing to make an experiment upon the curiosity and credulity of a *Yankee*, after having spent a day on shore, returned to the vessel with intelligence of a discovery of golden ore, which they exhibited in some yellow earth, a piece of antimony, and some other of the contents of the medicine chest. This determined the American, whose duty the next day required him to make the trial, to follow the course which was pointed out in search of this attractive object; and thus he relates his adventure:

"Drummond, who was a Scotchman, and my friend, but still willing to enjoy a frolic, with the characteristic shrewdness of his nation, perceiving that my ardour was sufficient, slapped me on the shoulder, and said, 'Ods mon, if you are set upon this, there is my large canvass bag which will hold two or three bushels. Take that, and my Malabar boy with you for a guide, he knows the place where we found these curious ores, and you can return with a back load of gold.' Every time this word *gold*, was pronounced, my imagination became more heated, and I was soon ripe for the enterprise. After a night of South-sea dreams our party was ready for the shore. The Malabar boy could not speak English, and I could not speak any thing else. He therefore received his instructions from his master without suspicions on my part. The Commodore also gave very liberal instructions to me, as the head of the party, allowing me liberty to go all over the island if I chose, only leaving a midshipman to take charge of the companies for procuring wood and water. He observed, at the same time, that he always wished his officers to make every discovery in their power while on land duty. At the firing of the gun we mustered; and on landing at the watering-place, I gave the midshipman his orders, took my fusée and the boy with his bag, and proceeded up the river with great exhilaration. The first mile was tolerably level and easy, and I was able to pass comfortably along the side of the river, which was about ten yards wide, and knee deep, winding its course through a most delightful landscape. After this, the land rose abruptly, the river was filled with falls, its banks were broken with rocks, and a passage in any way became exceedingly difficult. But the *gold* inspired me, and banished all sense of hardship. At last the Malabar boy cried out, and sunk down with fatigue. When I tried to make inquiries of him, he shook his head, and I supposed his meaning was, that he did not understand me. As we were sitting on the rocks to rest ourselves, I saw a number of

wild cocks and hens coming from the wood, and lighting on the trees over our heads. I shot five or six, and found them so like our barn-door fowls that I did not know but the place might be inhabited by beings like ourselves. The boy had been instructed to point up the river, whenever I asked for the place of the gold ore, and he was to go with me as far as we found water. With much difficulty however, and after repeated stops and rests, we made our way more than six miles, according to the channel of the river, and found it then divided into two or three branches near its sources. Here, after a solicitous examination of the boy, I discovered that neither he nor his master had been up the river before. The boy appeared not to have been let into the plot, but began to be alarmed and anxious. And from the very moment that the idea of a hoax entered my mind, all the evidence on the subject struck me in a new light. I saw how to put the circumstances together, and how to account for every thing. The intrigue unfolded itself with perfect clearness, and I saw myself in a wilderness, a fatigued, disappointed, and ridiculous dupe. In the midst of my vexation I could not help laughing, and almost crying at the same moment. The trick was a severe one for me, but it had been well managed, and my ardour and credulity were fairly chargeable to myself. After a hard struggle with my mortification, I determined to take it in good part, and laugh with the rest, drawing from the adventure those lessons of wisdom and prudence, which it was calculated to afford for future application. To relieve my mind, and to carry back something to check the force of the laugh against me, I employed myself in making observations upon the scenery, the soil, the products, the insects, and the reptiles about me. From the rock in the middle of the stream, where I had been sitting to think over my disappointment, and which I had chosen in order to avoid being bitten or stung by the numerous enemies of a discoverer's peace, I rose and penetrated into the wood ten or twelve rods; but the underbrush was too thick and thorny to allow a further passage through it. The river was the only way to return, which now renewed at every step the consciousness of my foolish credulity. The banks of the stream, however, were rich, and variegated with all the flowers and colours of spring. These formed a striking contrast with the reptiles concealed beneath them, among which the traveller was endangered every moment from scorpions, centipedes, guanas, and tarantulas. The soil was excellent, and produced in great abundance, the beetle nut, the cocoa nut, various other tropical fruits, and fine timber for ships. As we proceeded down the river, we were able to make little excursions further from its sides, and occasionally discovered pleasant lawns, some of which had been burnt over, and were now covered with high coarse grass. It was fine

amusement traversing these lawns, and shooting the variety of birds which we found in them. We soon filled Drummond's large bag, not indeed with golden ore, which I might not have been able to carry, and which might have galled my back more than the disappointment did my mind, but with fowls of different kinds, and of a plumage surpassing in beauty and richness, the finest colours of the mineral kingdom.

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About four o'clock in the afternoon, I reached the shore again, completely worn down with fatigue; but in much better spirits than I was, when at the sources of the river, in a trackless wood, revolving the rise, progress, developement, and possible consequences of the plot which had been laid and executed at my expense.

"I would now pause for a moment, to make a few remarks, showing the state of my feelings then, and my reflections afterwards.

"When I was seated in perfect silence, on a rock in the river near to its sources, and could hear the echo of the waters through the awful stillness of the desert, mingled with the occasional but unintelligible expressions of anxiety, by the poor Malabar boy; and when I remembered that I was at an almost immeasurable distance from my native country, in the service of a foreign power, the victim of an imposition which appeared to me under various aspects, and now in a savage spot where the natives might be every moment upon me, I confess I was not very far from that mixed mood of melancholy, mortification, and terror, which required but little more to overcome me for the hour. Had I been attacked, desperation might have roused me and made me brave. Vexation and pride however were my friends and supporters, till better feelings regained their elasticity and force.

"And after leaving the rock for the shore and the ship, every step, and every new object assisted to restore my self-control, and the consolations of hope. The feelings, which I then experienced, have taught me how to judge of the sufferings and wants of men, whose spirits fail when they are at a distance from home, and appear to themselves to be cast out from the sympathies of the human family. It is an evidence of as much folly as it is of inhumanity, to say that none but weak and dastardly minds are subject to these impressions. Good talents, a lively imagination, a temperament of ingenuousness and honesty, and those qualities of the soul which give the charm to decisive and efficient characters, serve only to add bitterness, under such circumstances, to the feeling of desolation. Whoever may have the command of men abroad, let him not, when he finds any of them oppressed with these feelings, begin to despise and reproach them as mean and pusillanimous. Let him learn human nature better; and by kindness, by increased manifestations of sympathy, by diversifying their employ-

ments, and appointing such as are adapted to their condition, let him gradually raise their hearts, invigorate their resolution, and bind them to duty, virtue, and friendship for ever. Many are the instances, in which generous and feeling minds have been ruined, and only relieved by death, when they were subject to the command of others, and during a period of depression were inhumanly treated without the means of redress. Sailors, and all men even of the meanest education, have the essential qualities of high minds, and are exalted and improved, at the same time that they are won, by generosity and kindness."

This generous theory of relieving the dejection, and encouraging the latent and suspended virtues of the human soul, under circumstances the most unpromising, in characters the most completely corrupted, has lately been illustrated by an example, not exactly resembling the case before us, and yet sufficiently like it in principle, to induce the efforts of the benevolent in the manner which is here recommended, in favour not only of all who suffer, but of all who err.

The memorable and extraordinary success of the excellent reformers of Newgate (see *Edinburgh Review*, No. —, Sept. 1818.) must from this time, confute the presumption, that there exists a human creature whom suitable motives, instruction, and example, may not persuade to abandon his vices, to exert his abilities, and yet to contribute something to general virtue and usefulness.

The delightful description of the Pelew Islands, given by George Keate, from Wilson, has been regarded by the people of the civilized world as a representation of savages, too favourable to be founded in fact. But in many particulars Wilson's account is fully corroborated by Captain Delano; and we shall have too much reason to believe, should subsequent visitors observe any degeneracy in this interesting race, that it will have been effected by the pernicious intercourse with white-men, which has unhappily as yet done more to corrupt than to improve the islanders of the Pacific ocean. The character of Abba Thulle, as a prince, a politician, a wise and moral man, is a lesson to the sovereigns of every land; and

happy would it have been for mankind, if those who have lived in the full light of philosophy and gospel truth, had, like him, pursued the true welfare of their subjects, and like him regarded the rights of their enemies.

When Commodore M'Clure visited these islands in June, 1791, he was received with the most entire confidence and hospitality; and observed not only the most perfect cordiality among the natives, but an active sympathy with the strangers, and the most rational curiosity. Abba Thulle's subjects generally loved him, and submitted to his authority; but his gentle sway was not sufficiently powerful to prevent those who lived on islands distant from the royal residence, from making attempts at independence. Wilson found some of the people in a state of revolt, and took part with Abba Thulle in subduing them. Commodore M'Clure also arrived in a time of rebellion, and, like Wilson, joined the king. He went against the inhabitants of Artingall, one of the islands under his dominion. The history of this enterprise is truly interesting, and is thus related by Captain Delano.

"The expedition for this purpose was fitted out the 21st of June, and was quite powerful. Some thousands of men were embarked. Two of our officers, the surgeon, a number of sailors, and a detachment of sepoys, were among them. I was assigned to the command of the launch, a large boat, with a crew of Europeans. We had a six pound brass cannon, several swivels, a chest of ammunition, and each man a musket. The king, according to his usual generosity, had sent word to the people of Artingall, that we should be there in three days for war. Although I was a Christian, and was in the habit of supposing the Christians superior to these pagans in the principles of virtue and benevolence, yet I could not refrain from remonstrating against this conduct on the part of the king. I told him that Christian nations considered it as within the acknowledged system of lawful and honourable warfare, to use stratagems against enemies, and to fall upon them whenever it was possible, and take them by surprise. He replied, that war was horrid enough when pursued in the most open and magnanimous manner; and that although he thought very highly of the English, still their principles in this respect did not obtain his approba-

tion, and he believed his own mode of warfare more politic as well as more just. He said, that if he were to destroy his enemies when they were asleep, others would have good reason to retaliate the same base conduct upon his subjects, and thus multiply evils, where regular and open warfare might be the means of a speedy peace without barbarity. Should he subdue his rebellious subjects by stratagem and surprise, they would hate both him and his measures, and would never be faithful and happy, although they might fear his power, and unwillingly obey his laws. Sentiments of this elevated character excited my admiration the more for this excellent pagan, and made an impression upon my mind, which time will never efface. Christians might learn of Abba Thulle a fair comment upon the best principles of their own religion.

Previous to our departure for Artingall, the king assembled all his force at Pelew, made all the necessary preparation of provisions and arms; we moved in the evening, pursued our course through the night, and on the morning of the 22d arrived off Artingall. The day was fair and pleasant. The canoes formed three lines, front, centre, and rear. The launch, with English colours flying, was in the centre; and the canoes pulled abreast in lines, with each a flag or banner resembling ours as much as possible. We came within a long reef, which extended several miles, and were then before the town, in smooth water, keeping in order as we approached. With our spyglass, we saw that the beach was covered with natives for a quarter of a mile near to the town, who had arms in their hands. When we were within a mile of them, the King gave orders for our musquito fleet to come to an anchor. This being done, he requested that a gun might be fired, and a signal made for some one to come off to us. We complied with his wishes, and immediately we observed people go to a stone pier and enter a canoe, which was paddled directly to our boat, at the astonishing rate of eight or nine miles an hour. When they were within our lines, the king's canoe being made fast along side the launch, they drew up at about four yards distance from us, and then, at the clapping of hands by the steersman, they all at once backed water with their paddles, and stopped as suddenly as if they had struck a rock. After this, they came along side the king's canoe, and we saw the chief, who was with them, and who sat distinguished from all the rest upon a seat in the centre. Their conduct upon this occasion attracted my attention and excited my admiration. With bold and fearless countenances, and with simple but determined manners, they looked round on all the instruments of death, which we had brought with us, and preserved a uniform air of indifference and courage. No signs of fear or doubt were betrayed by them, notwithstanding our expedition and various

European arms must have appeared formidable, if not irresistible to them, unaccustomed as they were to meet a foe thus equipped. In addition to the articles already named, we had pistols, boarding lances, cutlasses, and a Chinese rocket which resembled our torpedoes. Although the rockets were not very destructive in fact, they had an alarming appearance, and made a great parade of death to those who saw them approaching with smoke, and fire, and threatening leaps upon the water.

"The king said to the chief, 'Are you ready to fight?'—'We are.'—'Are you willing?'—He frankly answered, 'We are not; but we will sooner fight than have any laws imposed upon us, which we think unjust and disgraceful.'" The king told him, that we came prepared to give them battle, if they would not yield their rebellion, accept of pardon upon proper terms, and submit to the laws of their sovereign. A negotiation might be opened before a resort should be had to force. It was proposed to the chief, that he should go on shore, confer with the people, and if they were resolved on war, a signal should be made for hostilities to commence; but if they were inclined to peace and reconciliation, word must be sent us, and we must be invited to go up to the pier. The proposal was accepted, and they immediately started for the shore. The manner in which they made ready to put their canoe under way, was interesting to a European. The custom prevails among all the Pelew Islanders. One man of the crew pronounces a kind of chaunt, and instantly they all flourish their paddles over their heads with a perfectly uniform motion, and with the greatest dexterity. The exercise is as regular as that of a military company, and much more difficult to be performed. As our treble line of canoes approached Artingall that morning, this flourish of paddles by our crews was beautiful and impressive; but I thought that the rebels, who were now returning with their chief, executed it with still more grace and majesty. A strong interest for them was excited in my mind. Their open, candid, and admirable behaviour secured my partiality, and won my best hopes for their prosperity.

"When the chief and his party arrived at the pier, they were met by the crowds on shore, and after a short consultation returned to us as before. They brought a message for the king and the fleet to come to the pier, declared their readiness to enter into a negotiation, and offered us any provisions that we might want during its continuance. As I had already taken a friendly part with them in my feelings, I was much delighted with this message. We were soon under way, drew up to the pier, and were received with every mark of respect. Refreshments were pressed upon us, and were as cordially received. The terms which the king proposed were, that the people of Artingall should carry him from his

canoe, on a kind of litter, to their place of state, and set him on the throne; that the two highest chiefs, who had been named kings of the two islands in rebellion, should bring to him several valuable jewels, which they held at that time, and which had descended from his ancestors; that they should acknowledge him to be their lawful sovereign, and promise never more to revolt on pain of death; that the under chiefs should prostrate themselves before him with their faces to the ground, and make the same promise with the two first chiefs; and that they should exchange sixty women as hostages to secure the observance of peace. The king had remarked, that this exchange of women, as hostages, had generally been followed by a long period of tranquillity and good order. When these terms were made known to the chiefs of Artingall, through their own ministers, they seemed very unwilling to comply with them, and at first I thought they never would. They however took them into consideration.

At this time it was low water, and many hundred acres of the reef were bare. Abba Thulle gave his people liberty to go out upon the reef and collect shell-fish. Crowds of the men of Artingall were also on the reef, and our people mingled with them in all directions, so that it was impossible to distinguish them from each other. This produced not a little anxiety in the minds of some of us, who were not accustomed to such a mingling of enemies in a time of war. We remonstrated with the king against such unguarded conduct; but he said it was the best way to forward the negotiation; that his own people were safe, and knew how to act; that they would become familiar with each other and remove animosity; and that the object was not to subdue the rebels merely, but to make them good subjects. I now saw, from the actual experiment, the advantage of an open and generous policy, especially when united with such terms of submission on the part of the rebels as would leave no doubt of the king's power to conquer them by force if he chose. This naked savage had introduced such a spirit of confidence among the inhabitants of these islands, that treachery was never feared. We were left so unguarded, that, it appeared to me, the men of Artingall might have taken us by surprise and have made us captives, had they consented to violate the laws which rendered the suspension of hostilities sacred. The launch was aground, and the natives might have come down opposite the pier, with stones and spears, and have got possession of her. But no symptoms of treachery appeared. We lay at this place three days and nights, during the negotiation, and were treated with every kind of hospitality. I was indeed many times uneasy, and thought the terms hard on which the king insisted; but his reasonings were always good, and his policy effectual. He said that he had de-

manded no more than was necessary to prove his own sense of the injury done to him, to declare his power, and to satisfy the dignity which should always be paid to the throne. What he had required was indeed a great deal for the people of Artingall to do; but he could not require less, and more would be inconsistent with the future contentment and obedience of the people. He said further, he should think that we were destitute of humanity, and mere pretenders to the virtues of the heart, if we were not willing to protract the negotiation as long as there was a reasonable prospect of success, when our forbearance could not be ascribed to weakness or fear, as we had so great a superiority to the enemy. He assured us, that those who now appeared so kind and friendly, would fly to arms and fight desperately, should we show that we were really haughty and vindictive, and seeking concessions beyond the justice of the case. He would not wantonly shed the blood of any of his fellow-creatures, and much less of any of his subjects, although they might be in the wrong. Such were some of the numerous sentiments, of the most noble kind, which Abba Thulle expressed to us during the period of the negotiation. However savage may be the exterior of such a man, his heart must be allowed to be richly furnished with affections and principles worthy of a Christian disciple. If he is wanting in our forms of religion, he still has the substance and dignity of virtue.

"This policy at length succeeded. We were rejoiced to hear, after our long delay, that the people of both islands had agreed to all the articles which the king had proposed. Action soon followed determination. The litter, which looked much like a bier to carry the dead, was brought. The pier, of which I have spoken, was about a quarter of a mile long, from twelve to fifteen feet wide on the top, and spreading out at the bottom, from fifteen to eighteen feet high, and was built solid with rocks. The king was taken out of his canoe by the arms of his returning subjects, was set upon the litter, and eight men of Artingall carried it in their hands off the pier, and then on their shoulders up a paved way to the place of state. They enthroned him on a high seat, made of wood, and covered with mats. My fellow-officer, the surgeon, and myself followed, and stood by the throne. The two first chiefs approached him, half bent, holding the jewels suspended by strings, and presented them to his majesty. He received them with dignity and grace, and afterward bade them stand erect. He put such questions to them as he thought proper, and as the occasion required, all of which were answered to his satisfaction. The under chiefs were then called, twenty-five in number. They also approached half bent, knelt, brought their breasts to the ground, and kissed the king's feet. He then bade them

rise, and questioned them as he had done the others. After this ceremony was over, the women were brought according to the treaty. When they were collected, the king told each Englishman, if he saw any woman with whom he was pleased, he might take her. Next he said the same to his officers, who are denominated rupacks; and last he gave the same liberty to his common men, till the sixty were selected. I was curious to know whether any of the women would be unwilling to go with those by whom they were chosen; but I discovered in their countenances only cheerfulness and pleasure.

The articles of the treaty being settled, the people of both parties assembled round the square, where the seat of the king was, and partook of the various refreshments, which the bounty of the island could supply. They amused themselves in dancing, and in different plays, for several hours, while the king was settling the details of the future conduct of this portion of his subjects.

One rupack only was removed from his office in Artingall. When every thing was arranged to the satisfaction of the king, we re-embarked for Pelew, and took the broken rupack and the sixty women with us."

The Pelew islanders had never seen any white-men till Captain Wilson was cast on their shores in August, 1793. The English company in return for their kind treatment to Wilson, had sent them presents of fire-arms, which have done them incalculable mischief; and perhaps conduced, with the death of the good king, and the succession of another in all respects opposite to him, to produce an unhappy change in the character and condition of these people. The successor of Abba Thulle, (which is properly an official title,) was his eldest brother, Arra Kooker, who usurped the sovereignty to the exclusion of the lawful heir, the son of the king. But this selfish and oppressive man experienced "the fate of almost all such men in a natural course of retribution. He was assassinated."

Their manners and arts of life, like their wants, are extremely few and simple; and such as they are, do not appear from the means with which they have been furnished from abroad, to be in the progress of improvement.

"The inhabitants wear no clothes, and drink only water, or the juice of the cocoanut and of the sugar-cane without distilla-

tion. Canoes for fishing, and houses of a small, unexpensive, but comfortable kind for shelter, complete their list of wants, all of which are easily supplied. In looking at such a state of society, although it is unquestionably inferior to ours, yet we are sometimes tempted to regret that the contentment, which appears to accompany a people of so few wants, cannot be preserved more perfectly amidst the relations and interests of civilized life. The increase of wants, while it often, and perhaps generally, multiplies virtues and blessings, and calls out a variety of talents and sympathies, does also too often lead individuals to the use of dishonest means of gratification, and to vices, which render a portion of polished nations more miserable than any savages. If the inhabitants of the Pelew Islands had not as many virtues as we have, they certainly had at first fewer vices. And even if the proportion between their virtues and their vices, when compared with the proportion among us, should be found, as I think it would, in our favour, still one cannot help lamenting that the machinery of civilization, the means and motives for extensive improvement, should develop so many selfish and base passions, and destroy, in so many instances, the simplicity and confidence which gave such a peculiar charm to the character of the natives of the Pelew Islands when they were first visited by the English. But man seems to be destined to taste of the tree of the knowledge of evil as well as of good, in order to learn how to taste of the tree of life and live for ever. Vice and virtue, misery and happiness, are not relative terms more than they are relative states of the mind and the character. The good appears never to be fully estimated, and permanently secured, till the evil has been felt, and, after a painful trial, dismissed. The simplicity, amiableness, and confidence of natives, are never proof against the temptations to an abuse of their intercourse with the inhabitants of civilized countries, in the efforts which are at first made to meliorate their character and condition. The innocence and loveliness of children must suffer great changes in the transition from youth to manhood, and must be frequently assailed and tried, before confidence can, in all situations, be reposed in them. An experiment of our weakness is sometimes necessary to persuade us to adopt the means of obtaining and confirming strength. The critical stages in the formation of individual or national character are frequently attended by errors and excesses, not witnessed before or afterward, but which are the proof of the previous feebleness of virtue, and the parent of its succeeding force and dignity. Unhappily for the Pelew islanders, they have lost much of their early simplicity and goodness, and have not yet gained the intelligence and virtue of a civilized people. They have mixed their native character and habits with those of the Eu-

ropeans, and have not now the excellencies or the enjoyments of either."

In regard to their religion, their affections, their fidelity to implied engagements, it is to be regretted that they should be liable to any corruption; and that the fair foundation laid in their hearts and their habits, should not be the basis of a superstructure of Christian devotion, extended relations, and multiplied reciprocal benefits. But if the representation of their virtues is affecting, the probability of their growing excellence is far from being encouraging, as appears from the following statement:

"I learned that they believe in one God, in the unlimited extent of his government, in the most important moral distinctions and religious duties as taught by the light of nature, in the immortality of the soul, and in future rewards and punishments. They have very few forms of religion, little ceremony in their worship, and no houses or temples devoted to this purpose. That their creed was not merely speculative, and that the want of houses of worship did not proceed from a disregard of God or his laws, may be inferred from the benevolence and humanity of their hearts, from the honesty and fidelity of their lives, and from the actual fruits of their principles in their mutual confidence and happiness. Had their virtues been as vigorous and permanent, after their intercourse with Europeans, as they were unaffected and genuine at the period of their discovery, and had they continued to be happy under an increase of relations and wants with the means of gratification, we might now acknowledge it to be our duty to study their history more minutely, in order to arrive at the secret of their moral worth and social blessings. But their failure under the experiment, places them upon a level with other savage nations; and while it warns the agents of civilized communities not to repeat for ever the same injudicious plans of improvement upon the aborigines of the soil, it teaches us, also, that if our vices are more numerous than theirs, our virtues are not only more various, but are much stronger, better guarded, more fruitful, and more elevated.

"There is one trait of character for which the Pelews were remarkable—their fidelity in the engagements of friendship. They carried their ideas of the sacredness of this virtue to a very great extent, and doubted whether it were proper to make a profession of it, in the first degree, to two persons at the same time. In this they were probably too scrupulous; for it belongs not to the nature of true friendship to justify an

alliance in guilt, or to force an individual into a confederacy against the interests of society or religion. Personal attachments are entirely compatible with general benevolence, and ought always to be regulated by it. He only is a genuine friend, who imbibes this spirit, and regards it in his intercourse with those to whom he is bound by specific promises and pledges. On our arrival, the king proposed to us, that we should each choose a friend. We answered, that we intended to be the friends of them all, and hoped that they would all be our friends in return. This, however, did not meet the sentiments of the king. He spoke to us of the pleasure, the peace, and the mutual safety, which would arise from the kind of confidence required by their laws of particular and inviolable friendship. We complied with his wishes, and the Commodore chose Abba Thulle, each of our officers chose a chief, and the crew made selections from among the people, according to their judgment or their caprice. For myself, it is my prayer always to find as faithful a friend as he was whom I chose at Pelew; and never could I pray for a better. He was always watching for opportunities to do me service, anticipating my wants, and giving me information of every danger. Should it be thought by any reader that the terms of friendship, as here described, must have rendered it mercenary, because the reciprocity led each of the parties to expect a reward for every office of kindness, I would answer, that such an objection carries with it its own refutation. The very idea of a perfect reciprocity removes the motive of selfishness, and makes the good, which results from united efforts, a social possession. But besides this, the fact deserves a place in my narrative, that when I was about to leave the Pelew Islands for the last time, and for ever, I found it difficult to persuade the friend, whom I had chosen, to accept of the presents which I had purchased for him during my absence, and which I knew were particularly agreeable to his taste. My fellow-officers found the same disinterestedness in their intercourse with the individuals among the chiefs whom they had chosen for friends. A man, who finds it hard to conceive of real benevolence in the motives of his fellow-creatures, gives no very favourable testimony to the public in regard to the state of his own heart, or the elevation of his moral sentiments."

The war-song of the king's party, as they approached Artingall, and the chant of the delegates of his foes, have the character of all productions of men in the same stage of the social progress. The former is thus rendered:—

"We are the warriors of Abba Thulle, the great king! Let us be brave men. We

have slain our enemies! Let us be invincible. We will conquer or die!"

The chant was a song, with a meaning in our language as follows;

"We are heralds from the chiefs of Artingall.—We are lovers of justice and law.—We are friends to the good.—We seek our rights and honour with peace.—We bury our hatred when we enjoy the love of our King."

To these may be properly subjoined, the relation of their simple, social devotion.

"I have often seen the men and women sitting together after sunset, particularly in moon light evenings, and heard the women chant their prayers and praises, while the men would listen, and at intervals join in the chorus. The meaning of the words was not always the same, but always included a prayer for Abba Thulle. I remember one instance in which the impression made upon my mind by their devotion, was deep and interesting. It would not be in my power to give an adequate translation of the hymn, but it began with thanksgiving for the serene and beautiful evening; for the peace which they enjoyed under Abba Thulle; for health and prosperity; and then it offered a prayer for his continuance in life, for his success in war, and his wisdom in government; for their parents, children, and friends; for good seasons, abundant fruit, and tranquil days for their enterprises on the water, and the collection of fish and food; for deliverance from civil war and domestic contentions; and for the fruitfulness of the women, and the prosperity of the islands.

"The Panther had just come from Pelew, at the time when I first became acquainted with commodore McClure at Macao, and had brought two Pelew women, and Cockawockey, a Pelew man. One of the women was a daughter of Abba Thulle, who had formed a desire to visit China under the protection of the Commodore. While we were lying in the harbour of Macao, and on our passage back to the Pelew Islands, it was a custom with these women and Cockawockey, as it was afterwards with the women whom we carried with us to New-Guinea, to take their seats together in some retired part of the deck, and sing a religious hymn in a peculiarly plaintive and touching manner. We were often listening to them, while we appeared to be engaged only about our own concerns. We could plainly distinguish many of the sentiments which they sung, and heard prayers to the Deity, that he would protect and bless their fathers, their mothers, their sisters, and their brothers; that he would keep them in health, and make them happy; that he would allow themselves to return to their native islands in safety, and make glad the hearts of their

friends to receive them; that he would be kind to Abba Thulle and the people; and that he would send them fruit, and give them peace.

"It was a frequent petition in their prayers, that they might have an abundance of tarra-root, the principal bread of the country, and the chief object of their cultivation. There was also a great aversion to barrenness among the females, and their prayers often ascended with an earnest intreaty that they might have children.

"A circumstance of considerable interest happened, when we were returning to Pelew from Artingall, after the treaty of peace with those who had revolted, and the sixty female hostages were with us. Abba Thulle and Wedgeborough, my friend and fellow officer, were behind the launch, and the greatest part of the canoes employed in the expedition. We were desirous of stopping at some place till they should come up. It was a delightful evening at twilight, when we saw, in passing one of the islands, a beautiful cove, where we might have a charming place to lie at rest till the king and his party should overtake us. During this period, the chiefs were pleased to unite in a song of thanksgiving for the advantages which they had received from the English in the success of the present expedition, and also for the good they had derived from the nation at other times. They offered praise to God for the assistance of the brave Englishmen, just, generous, greater than others, and equal to gods; expressed their gratitude for a victory and a peace, without the shedding of blood; hoped they should never have war with the English; said they would rather be their servants, than their enemies; wished them prosperity in their expedition; and prayed that they might return to their friends in health and safety, and enjoy every blessing.

"All this was done with some ceremony, and with great solemnity. The natives stood upon the benches of their canoes, and kept time with their feet, as well as with their hands. The sound, which they produce by striking the flat hand upon the hollow part of the thigh, is wonderful. It is loud and clear when an individual does it alone; but when it was done by this multitude together, the report and the echo from the forest, through the stillness of the night, and over the unruffled surface of the cove, were deep and awful beyond description.

This song continued about twenty minutes. It is the common practice, on such occasions, for one to name the song, and the few short and simple sentences which are to be sung. The sentences are always direct and brief, easily remembered and repeated, and many of them handed down by tradition, which are learned early, and can, by habit, be called up to the mind at pleasure. They have persons among them, who can make with facility such alterations and additions as any new combination of circum-

stances may require. I have always found great force in the laconic language of savages. And under such circumstances as the above, the ornaments of rhetoric, and the long sentences in which they are often conveyed, would only mar the beauty, and weaken the impression of their simple songs. However mixed with errors in regard to many of the subjects of thought, and duties of life, the religion of the Pelew Islanders may be, it must be allowed by all, of great value, so long as it contains sentiments, and cherishes affections, like those of the pious hymns here recorded.

The extensive region of New-Guinea was visited next in course, but here a different scene was presented, and instead of the manifestations of good will, the most savage hostility was exhibited by the woolly-headed natives who cut off all who come within their power; indeed such is their abhorrence of white men, that they give a man the rank of chief who presents to them the head of one white man, and exalt to the most pre-eminent dignity, him who brings three heads.

"The causes of this hatred are, in a great measure, tracable to our own misconduct towards them. When Europeans first visited New Guinea, the natives manifested no spirit of enmity. But the Europeans seized and carried them away as slaves, in a most treacherous manner. It was common for them to hook the yard tackles of a ship to a canoe, hoist her on deck with all the crew in her, transport them and sell them for slaves. The natives have heard also of the cruelties practised towards the inhabitants of other islands, and even of the enormities committed by white people against each other at Amboyna, and several places in the vicinity. It is not therefore a matter of surprise that the natives should encourage and transmit this hatred towards Europeans. The white people have too often, and to their everlasting disgrace, used their arts and force, as members of civilized society, to betray, to kidnap, or to seize openly and violently, the natives for the most selfish and inhuman purposes. They make reprisals upon us, whenever they can, and are peculiarly inveterate against us in their hostility. Happy will it be, when the time shall arrive, that we ourselves furnish no longer the chief obstacles to the civilization and moral improvement of the natives, according to the laws and religion of Christian countries."

At Amboyna the same spirit was exhibited, and yet more fatally expressed, by the murder of the surgeon, Dr. Nicholson.

The island of Timor has been remark-

able as the refuge of many distressed wanderers of the ocean. The most celebrated of them, were the expelled officers of the *Bounty*; and the captain and crew of the *Pandora*, who were sent out in pursuit of the mutineers. The extraordinary history of the colony founded by these mutineers, is considerably elucidated by the curiosity which was first excited by the journal of Captain Edwards, which Captain Delano saw at Timor, and which led him to further inquiry of Captain Folger, of the American ship *Topaz*, concerning the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island. From the statement of the latter, derived from the communication of Alexander Smith, the only survivor of the mutineers, a fact relating to Christian, the leader of the mutiny, which is asserted in the *Quarterly Review*, is disproved. The *Quarterly Reviewers* say, "that he was shot dead while digging in the field by an Otaheitan man." Smith informed Captain Folger, that Christian governed the people of the island several years; that he became sick and died a *natural death*. The particulars of this history have appeared in reviews, in newspapers, and various publications. Captain Folger's account shows how much more beautiful the virtues of nature are rendered, by the influence of civilization; and should the instructions of the patriarch of this island be perpetuated in his successors, the prolonged felicity and worth of these children of the sea, may be plausibly anticipated. Captain Folger's interview with Smith, and his account of the employments, appearance, and conduct of *Smith's colony*, for he is styled "Father," by the inhabitants, is the most interesting passage in the book.

"Smith had taken great pains to educate the inhabitants of the island in the faith and principles of Christianity. They were in the uniform habit of morning and evening prayer, and were regularly assembled on Sunday for religious instruction and worship. It has been already mentioned that the books of the *Bounty* furnished them with the means of considerable learning. Prayer Books and Bibles were among them, which were used in their devotions. It is probable also that Smith composed prayers

and discourses particularly adapted to their circumstances. He had improved himself very much by reading, and by the efforts he was obliged to make to instruct those under his care. He wrote and conversed extremely well, of which he gave many proofs in his records and in his narrative. The girls and boys were made to read and write before Captain Folger, to show him the degree of their improvement. They did themselves great credit in both, particularly the girls. The stationery of the *Bounty* was an important addition to the books, and was so abundant that the islanders were not yet in want of any thing in this department for the progress of their school. The journal of Smith was so handsomely kept as to attract particular attention, and excite great regret that there was not time to copy it. The books upon the island must have created and preserved among the inhabitants an interest in the characters and concerns of the rest of mankind. This idea will explain much of their intercourse with Captain Folger, and the difference between them and the other South Sea islanders in this respect.

"When Smith was asked if he had ever heard of any of the great battles between the English and French fleets in the late wars, he answered, 'how could I, unless the birds of the air had been the heralds?'—He was told of the victories of Lord Howe, Earl St. Vincent, Lord Duncan, and Lord Nelson. He listened with attention till the narrative was finished, and then rose from his seat, took off his hat, swung it three times round his head with three cheers, threw it on the ground sailor like, and cried out 'Old England for ever!'—The young people around him appeared to be almost as much exhilarated as himself, and must have looked on with no small surprise, having never seen their patriarchal chief so excited before.

"Smith was asked, if he should like to see his native country again, and particularly London, his native town? He answered, that he should, if he could return soon to his island, and his colony; but he had not the least desire to leave his present situation for ever. Patriotism had evidently preserved its power over his mind, but a stronger influence was generated by his new circumstances, and was able to modify its operations.

"The houses of this village were uncommonly neat. They were built after the manner of those at Otaheite. Small trees are felled and cut into suitable lengths; they are driven into the earth, and are interwoven with bamboo; they are thatched with the leaves of the plantain and coconut; and they have mats on the ground.—My impression is, that Folger told me some of them were built of stone.

"The young men laboured in the fields and the gardens, and were employed in the several kinds of manufactures required by their situation. They made canoes, house-

hold furniture of a simple kind, implements of agriculture, and the apparatus for catching fish.—The girls made cloth from the cloth-tree, and attended to their domestic concerns.

“They had several amusements, dancing, jumping, hopping, running, and various feats of activity. They were as cheerful as industrious, and as healthy and beautiful as they were temperate and simple. Having no ploughs and no cattle, they were obliged to cultivate their land by the spade, the hoe, and other instruments for manual labour.

“The provision set before Captain Folger consisted of fowls, pork, and vegetables, cooked with great neatness and uncommonly well. The fruits also were excellent.

“The apron and shawl worn by the girls were made of the bark of the cloth-tree. This is taken off the trunk, not longitudinally, but round, like the bark of the birch. It is beaten till it is thin and soft, and fit for use. The natural colour is buff, but it is dyed variously, red, blue, and black, and is covered with the figures of animals, birds, and fish.

“When he was about to leave the island, the people pressed round him with the warmest affection and courtesy. The chronometer which was given him, although made of gold, was so black with smoke and dust that the metal could not be discovered. The girls brought some presents of cloth, which they had made with their own hands, and which they had dyed with beautiful colours. Their unaffected and amiable manners, and their earnest prayers for his welfare, made a deep impression upon his mind, and are still cherished in his memory. He wished to decline taking all that was brought him in the overflow of friendship, but Smith told him it would hurt the feelings of the donors, and the gifts could well be spared from the island. He made as suitable a return of presents as his ship afforded, and left this most interesting community with the keenest sensations of regret. It reminded him of Paradise, as he said, more than any effort of poetry or the imagination.”

“The means that may be used by civilized nations in behalf of this infant community, with a view to its permanent happiness, are very beautifully and philosophically suggested, in the close of the chapter of “Reflections upon the History of the Bounty, and of Pitcairn’s Island.”

“The power of education, when no circumstances in the state of society counteract its effects, is happily illustrated in the innocence, simplicity, and worth of the community of Pitcairn. Intercourse with

the world had not corrupted them; artificial laws and institutions had not furnished temptations to their own violation; and their natural interests had not been made to clash with their duties. A mild and paternal system of instruction and government had been left to produce its legitimate effects upon their characters and actions. Could we universally adopt the same system in all families among ourselves, we might look for the same results. The extent of our population would not vary the influence of the cause, if it were to be universally applied. But as the state of society now is, one part of the system too often defeats another. What we teach in one school, in one family, or in one church, another contradicts; and minds which are yet unformed, and still under the power of instruction from teachers, are not unfrequently more at a loss in the pursuit of truth than if they had been left to themselves and the gradual developement of their faculties in a course of nature. In the business of education, let a good temper, a habit of benevolence and disinterestedness, the love of justice and truth, and a liberal acquiescence in the diversities of character, be much more an object than any compend of particular views and principles which might be found in the dogmas of sects. In all countries, and under all institutions, it is of far more importance to give efficacy to common sense, and to our best natural affections, than it is to control our philosophical speculations, and to establish the faith of our children in the articles of the predominant creed.

“It is painful to look forward to the time when the interesting family of Pitcairn shall lose their present innocence and loveliness, by the frequent visits which they must be expected to receive from ships that will hereafter be attracted to their retreat by the fame of their beauty, the affection of their hearts, and the softness of their climate. Captain Folger is to be envied the pleasure of witnessing the operations of their minds, when they first beheld the inhabitants of other lands, before any portion of their freshness and simplicity was removed. The history of the world furnishes no similar occasion for an experiment of this nature, nor can it be repeated with the same people. Paradise might well be brought to Captain Folger’s imagination when he was walking through the village of these uncorrupted children of nature, when he was receiving the full tide of their affection and sympathy, when he looked round on their graceful forms and artless manners, and when he contemplated the felicity which innocence and purity bestow. To leave such a spot and such a group must have been a trial indeed, and might, without much effort, be considered as a second banishment from Eden.

“To send missionaries among them, according to the proposal of some good people, would be an unfortunate experiment

upon their peace and virtue, unless the individuals selected should be much more enlightened and liberal than any of that class of persons with whom I have been fortunate enough to be acquainted. No mode of destroying their harmony would probably be more successful than the preaching of a man who should declaim to this innocent and uncorrupted community against their natural hearts, and insist upon their being refashioned after a model prepared and sent out from the work-shop of the sect. When they should be made anew, under the direction of such an artist, and should learn to decry all that is natural in their affections and manners, as though it were carnal and wicked, they would indeed have their eyes opened to see that no virtue and no happiness are any longer to be found while they are in the body, and that they must suffer until the grave shall release them. Religionists of this cast too often make their doctrines true, by the effects which they produce in society when they are believed and followed. The world becomes, as they say it is, quite worthless; the people find themselves without merit by which to claim happiness; and even the saints, according to their own confession, have much more sin than holiness.

"While the present natural, simple, and affectionate character prevails among these descendants of Christian and Smith, they will be delightful to our minds, they will be amiable and acceptable in the sight of God, and they will be useful and happy among themselves. Let it be our fervent prayer, that neither canting and hypocritical emissaries from schools of artificial theology on the one hand, nor sensual and licentious crews and adventurers on the other, may ever enter the charming village of Pitcairn to give disease to the minds or the bodies of the unsuspecting inhabitants."

Captain Delano's engagement with Commodore M'Clure was completed in July, 1793. His subsequent voyages, three times round the world, describe the coasts of Africa, of South-America, and a multitude of islands in the southern hemisphere. He gives an agreeable impression of the manners of the better classes in the Dutch colonies, and affords some supplementary information to the innumerable voyages that have been recorded, from Lord Anson to Commodore Porter. The islands of Elephanta and Salsette contain some remarkable antiquities, equally extraordinary as monuments of art, and representations of mystical mythology, and which lead to some interesting speculations.

"Before I leave Bombay, I cannot omit to speak of the celebrated antiquities in the islands of Elephanta and Salsette. I visited them, and think that they surpass all the curiosities which I have ever seen. It is common to form parties at Bombay, when strangers are there, and go to these islands for amusement. The caves had so much water in them, at the time I went to see the wonders which they contain, that I could not go into them, a disappointment which I bore with no small impatience. I learned from my companions whatever was most interesting in the interior of the excavations. The cave on Elephanta is the largest, the island is high, and has two summits which are covered with wood. It is five miles in circumference, and the cave is less than a mile from the beach. The elephant, from which the name of the island is derived, is the size of life, cut out of rock, and is black. It stands near the mouth of the cave, and not far from the shore. The cave is formed in the solid rock, and is 135 feet both in length and breadth. A great number and variety of figures in high relief are found in it. The whole is supposed to be of Hindoo origin, although the common people are told that it was made by the gods. The extent of its antiquity is not known. Some have said that it was dedicated to Seva the destroyer, a god of the Gentoos; but of this there is some doubt, although the cave was probably a work of religion or superstition. The exhibition of the benevolent as well as of the terrific principle in the religion of the authors, must have mingled with their design, and with the choice of the figures. The Edinburgh Encyclopedia may assist to illustrate this remark by the following quotation: 'The upper extremity of the cave is chiefly distinguished by the profusion of figures. Here the most striking is a bust, eighteen feet high, of a figure with three heads, expressive of that being of whom the Hindoos had the most sublime conceptions. The middle head represents Brahma, or the creative attribute; the head on the left Vishnoo, or the preserving; and on the right Seva, the destroying, or changing. Brahma's face is represented full, with a look of dignity and composure; his head and neck profusely covered with ornaments. The face of Vishnoo is in profile, with likewise a complacent regard, and a richly decorated head. One hand bears a lotus flower, the other a fruit resembling a pomegranate; on one of his wrists is seen a ring, as worn by the Hindoos at present. Seva, on the contrary, frowns with a terrific countenance in profile, with a projecting forehead, and staring eyes. Snakes supply the place of hair; and the representation of a human skull is conspicuous on the covering of the head. One hand grasps a monstrous cobra-di-capello, the other a smaller one; the whole calculated to strike terror and amazement. The length, from the crown of the head to the chin, is six feet.

exclusive of the cap, which is three feet more.'

"This account gives us three attributes, personified by three heads. We might be inclined to trace an analogy between these and the cherubic figures described in our sacred books, which so many Christians consider as representing the Deity, were it not that Seva seems to be too nearly the same with Satan to be introduced among the emblems of the God described in the Bible. Another difficulty also might be supposed to arise from the variation in the numbers, the cherub of Ezekiel having *four* heads, and the figure of the eagle having but *three*. Where numbers are fundamental, a personification which is *fourfold*, and another which is *threefold*, must be somewhat uncomfortable to the mythologist in his attempts at reconciliation. It is our own opinion, however, that the difficulty is not insurmountable when the true philosophy of the mythology of all nations is understood. It is not necessary to consider Seva as a distinct deity, and answering to Satan, but he may be taken as a personification of avenging justice, the right or the disposition to punish the obstinately guilty, as this attribute exists in the true God. The personification of one attribute more, or one less, does not alter the theory of the explanation,

or prevent us from using it as an illustration of the same great truths."

In these extracts we have selected inferences rather than details, which are less obvious to cursory readers, but not less important. It was impossible in traversing seas and lands, in a course preceded by many intelligent and scientific adventurers, to collect a great abundance of new facts; not to collect *some*, would imply inattention and negligence; as neither the experience nor the perceptions of any two individuals are precisely alike. In the perusal of this ample volume of nearly six hundred pages, doubtless some new views of animal economy, if not of scientific arrangement, and some additional information concerning the particular regions it describes, may be obtained. The selections we have made, show that it contains many correct, elegant, and important truths of a moral nature.

ART. 4. *Recollections of Curran and some of his Contemporaries.* By CHARLES PHILLIPS, Esq. 8vo. pp. 340. New-York. Wiley & Co. 1813.

FROM the age of Demosthenes to our own, it would not be easy to select a name more illustrious in the field of oratory than the eminent individual whose biography now lies before us: nor, perhaps, has the native power of genius been ever more strikingly displayed than in the elevation of this extraordinary man from indigence and obscurity to opulence; and, what was more precious in the eyes of CURRAN, the well-earned and richly merited admiration of his country and mankind. Such a man may, indeed, be permitted to look back on his origin with exultation, and cast a proud review over the course of a splendid and honourable life—a life devoted to the unsullied practice of an arduous and noble profession, and composed of a series of exalted efforts in the defence of his compatriots against the invasions of a griping and unrelenting tyranny. Such a man is the land-

mark of his age—a pillar of light to guide us through the dark mazes of human depravity—and when we behold him, aided only by the simple force of his eloquence, breathed from the heart, and burning on the lip—standing dauntlessly forth between the oppressor and oppressed, defying the frowns of abused authority, and spurning the forms of antiquated customs, every energy of his mind intensely occupied on one object—the rescue of innocence and talent from the fangs of judicial despotism and hereditary imbecility—the moral sublimity with which he is invested, awakens the best and most sacred of our feelings—and while the very necessity for exertions that seem almost superhuman strikes us with a melancholy conviction of the iniquity of which our nature is capable, we are absorbed in wonder and delight at the glorious and captivating display of a genius of the first order,

familiar, at once, with the grandest and loveliest forms of nature and of art, enriched with the treasures of learning, and possessed of all the information and resources of professional science, putting forth its full vigour, and, like Michael, in his combat with the rebel fiend, collecting all its energies for a battle in which it is no disgrace to be defeated, but in which, when we consider the immensity of the means, not of intellect, but of power, employed against it, a victory is worth a hundred ordinary triumphs.

In this wonderful orator and admirable man, it is difficult to say whether his moral or intellectual nature were the most deserving of applause. To the eminence he attained, after entering on the career of his profession, he rose entirely by his own indefatigable exertions; and so far was he from receiving assistance from the hand of power, that, as he told the author of these memorials, he lost a portion of his practice, worth 30,000*l.* in consequence of his unrelaxing opposition to measures which his reason disapproved, and his patriotism abhorred. His political principles were constitutional; he was, of course, an enemy of the ministers generally, but when Fox assumed the reins, he had no stauncher supporter than CURRAN. In private life he was distinguished by the urbanity of his manners, and the hospitality of his board was graced by the most eminent personages of the age. His wit was racy, sparkling, and pointed—but when unexcited by hostility or crime, the keenness of its edge was never armed by personal satire. In classic learning he was rich, and his knowledge of English literature was extensive, accurate, and critical. The same remark will apply to his acquaintance with all the eminent French authors, whose language his biographer reports him to have spoken with the perfection and fluency of a native. Of the principles of musical science, the same authority pronounces him to have acquired a knowledge more characteristic of a master than an amateur, and his performance on the violin and violoncello

is said to have been “admirable.” It is not a little singular that, a poet himself, and one of no inconsiderable power, CURRAN, in his judgment of MILTON, should have suffered himself to have been influenced by prejudices of a nature totally unfounded, and in so great a man, absurd. His reasoning upon the subject of the *Paradise Lost*, was a good deal in the Johnsonian style, though no two men could be more widely separated from each other in their genius, taste, and pursuits, than the barrister and the critic. Yet his conversational remarks upon that sublime poem were given in language, according to the character of the passages, either of a grandeur that filled his hearers with awful admiration, or of a humour so irresistibly comic, as to produce involuntary laughter. This latter observation touches his criticism on the poet, not his opinions on religious topics. It has been basely said, that this extraordinary man was deficient in his practice of the duties, and reverence for the precepts, of religion. He was distinguished for each, and a meaner, falser charge could scarcely be invented and propagated against an individual whose whole life may justly be pronounced to have been spent in a service the most acceptable to heaven—in splendid and unwearied endeavours to benefit his fellow-creatures—to snatch from the grasp of power its unfortunate and helpless victims—and who proved his allegiance to God by his sympathy with man.

A small and obscure village called New-Market, in the county of Cork, had the honour of being the birth-place of CURRAN. His father, James Curran, was poor, humble in station, and illiterate, but his mother, though not blessed with the advantages of education, appears to have been a woman of considerable sense, and even talent. The veneration in which her name was ever held by her son, is evinced in the few simple but affecting words which form her epitaph:

“Here lieth all that was mortal of MARTHA CURRAN—a woman of many virtues—few foibles—great talents and no vice.—This

tablet was inscribed to her memory by a son who loved her, and whom she loved."

Chance and benevolence were the fosterers of Curran's boyhood. His father's circumstances would not allow him to give the future patriot and orator the advantages of a liberal education—he was suffered to associate with all the little vagabonds of the village—his days were consumed in studies worse than useless, and his evenings lost in their exhibition before his playmates.

"I was then," said he, "a little ragged apprentice to every kind of idleness and mischief, all day studying whatever was eccentric in those older, and half the night practising it for the amusement of those who were younger than me. Heaven only knows where it would have ended. But, as my poor mother said, I was born to be a great man. One morning I was playing at marbles in the village ball-alley, with a light heart and a lighter pocket. The gibe, and the jest, and the plunder went gayly round; those who won laughed, and those who lost cheated; when suddenly there appeared amongst us a stranger of a very venerable and very cheerful aspect: his intrusion was not the least restraint upon our merry little assemblage; on the contrary, he seemed pleased, and even delighted: he was a benevolent creature, and the days of infancy (after all, the happiest we shall ever see) perhaps rose upon his memory. God bless him! I see his fine form at the distance of half a century just as he stood before me in the little ball-alley in the days of my childhood! His name was Boyse; he was the Rector of Newmarket: to me he took a particular fancy; I was winning, and was full of waggery, thinking every thing that was eccentric, and by no means a miser of my eccentricities; every one was welcome to share them, and I had plenty to spare after having freighted the company. Some sweetmeats easily bribed me home with him. I learned from poor Boyse my alphabet and my grammar, and the rudiments of the classics: he taught me all he could, and then he sent me to the school at Middleton—in short, *he made a man of me*. I recollect, it was about five and thirty years afterwards, when I had risen to some eminence at the bar, and when I had a seat in Parliament, and a good house in Ely Place, on my return one day from court, I found an old gentleman seated alone in the drawing-room, his feet familiarly placed on each side of the Italian marble chimney-piece, and his whole air bespeaking the consciousness of one quite at home. He turned round—it was *my friend of the ball-alley*! I rushed instinctively into his arms. I could not help bursting into tears. Words cannot

describe the scene which followed. "You are right, Sir; you are right; the chimney-piece is yours—the pictures are yours—the house is yours: you gave me all I have—my friend—my father!" He dined with me; and in the evening I caught the tear glistening in his fine blue eye when he saw his poor little Jacky, the creature of his bounty, rising in the House of Commons to reply to a *right honourable*. Poor Boyse! he is now gone; and no suitor had a larger deposit of practical benevolence in the court above. This is his wine—let us drink his memory."

Pleased with the talent and assiduity of his young pupil, Mr. Carey, the master of the school at Middleton, paid him more than common attention, and his kindness was rewarded by the rapid progress of Curran. To classical literature he was especially attached, and few of his contemporaries possessed a more general acquaintance with the immortal writers of antiquity. With Homer and Virgil he might be said to maintain an almost perpetual communion—his allusions to, and quotations from, their works, both in court and in conversation, were "apt and frequent." Mr. Phillips gives the following illustrative anecdote:

"I remember him myself, in the cabin of one of the Holyhead packets, when we were all rolling in a storm, very deliberately opening his bag, taking out a little pocket Virgil, and sitting down *con amore* to the fourth book of the Eneid, over which he told me in the morning he had been crying all night. For my part, as I very unclassically remarked, Dido might have hanged herself at the mast-head without exciting in me at the time an additional emotion. Those who have ever enjoyed the comforts of a ship's cabin in a storm, will know how to excuse my Vandalism."

From the school at Middleton he passed on to Trinity College, as a sizer, where he was placed under the tutelage of a Doctor Dobbin. On his entrance he was *installed* in the second place—but his course through the college was undistinguished by academic honours. Of the cause, his biographer leaves us in ignorance—but his account of the state of the college at this period, authorizes the supposition, that the merits of CURRAN were rather overlooked than unperceived.

"Perhaps there is not to be found in the whole history of literature any institution

so ancient and so endowed, so totally destitute of literary fame as the Alma Mater of Ireland.* With the two exceptions of Doctor Magee and Doctor Millar, there is scarcely a single fellow of modern times who has produced a work which is not beneath contempt; and the English reader should be informed that a fellowship in Dublin College is an office of no inconsiderable emolument. Seven of the fellows are permanent stipendiaries on the institution, whose united salaries, &c. are little less than 10,000*l* a year. There is a whole host of junior fellows, whose incomes are very considerable, and a variety of livings from 1800*l*. a year downward, upon which they are billeted, as Death takes his revenge upon the extern incumbents for a too free enjoyment of the comforts of this world. Swift, more than a century ago, described the site of his 'Legion Club' to be—

'Scarce a bowshot from the College—
Half the globe from sense or knowledge'—

and so prophetic, as well as poetic, were the lines, that it has ever since received, both at Cambridge and Oxford, the ignominious appellation of '*The Silent Sister*.'

To a young man of genius, like Curran, such a situation must have been peculiarly irksome—and the brilliant talents of the youthful academician would appear rather to have roused the jealousy than to have excited the applause of the professors.

"But though uncheered by any encouragement, and undistinguished by any favour, by the anonymous superintendents of the day, he was not altogether unvisited by their severity. He was called before their board on the slightest suspicion of irregularity, and generally proved himself more than an overmatch for them. At one time the charge was, that he kept *idle women* in his rooms! 'I never did, please your Reverences,' said the embryo advocate, (with the expression of a modern saint upon his countenance,) 'I never did keep any woman *idle* in my room, and I am ready to prove it.' Their Reverences, I believe, did not require the corroboration. At another time he was called before them for wearing a *dirty shirt*. 'I pleaded,' said he, 'inability to wear a *clean one*, and I told them the story of poor Lord Avonmore, who was at that time the plain, untitled, struggling Barry Yelverton. 'I wish, mother,' said Barry, 'I had *eleven shirts*'—'*Eleven!* Barry, why *eleven?*'—'Because, mother, I am of

opinion that a gentleman, to be *comfortable*, ought to have *the dozen*.' Poor Barry had but *one*, and I made the precedent my justification."

Quitting college, he went to London, where he procured his name, by what means is not related, to be entered on the books of the Middle Temple. Of his resources during his residence in the metropolis, Mr. Phillips only says, on the authority of a friend who knew him well, "that he received from the Middleton School a small stipend," and that his literary exertions supplied the remainder of his income. Of these his biographer was able to procure but two. They are poetical, and possess, more particularly the first, merit that makes us regret that he did not cultivate this delightful art more sedulously.

"LINES WRITTEN AT RICHMOND.

On the same spot where weeping Thompson
paid

His last sad tribute to his Talbot's shade,
A humble muse, by fond remembrance led,
Bewails the absent where he mourned the dead;
Nor differs much the subject of the strain
Whether of death or absence we complain,
Whether we're sunder'd by the final scene,
Or envious seas disjoining roll between,
Absence, the dire effect, is still the same,
And death and distance differ but in name;
Yet sure they're diff'rent; if the peaceful grave
From haunting thoughts its low-laid tenants
save:

Alas! my friend, were Providence inclined,
In unrelenting wrath to human kind,
To take back ev'ry blessing that she gave,
From the wide ruin she would memory save;
For memory still, with more than Egypt's art,
Embalming ev'ry grief that wounds the heart,
Sits at the altar she had rais'd to woe,
And feeds the source whence tears must ever
flow."

The verses immediately following, were evidently thrown off in one of those strange moods of mind, in which the writer, smarting under the lash of misfortune, yet disdainng to sink beneath her frowns, mingles a kind of satirical stoicism with his reflections upon the inutility of grieving over ills beyond our power to remedy:

"THE DESERTER'S LAMENTATION.

1

If sadly thinking,
And spirits sinking,
Could more than drinking
Our griefs compose—

* There are, no doubt, at this moment many men of genius amongst the junior fellows of the College; but they so totally attach themselves to tuition, that literature is out of the question."

A cure for sorrow
From grief I'd borrow,
And hope to-morrow
Might end my woes.

2

But since in wailing
There's nought availing,
For Death unfailing,
Will strike the blow ;
Then, for that reason,
And for the season,
Let us be merry
Before we go !

3

A wayworn ranger,
To joy a stranger,
Through ev'ry danger
My course I've run ;
Now, Death befriending,
His last aid lending,
My griefs are ending,
My woes are done.

4

No more a rover
Or hapless lover,
Those cares are over—
'My cup runs low ;'
Then, for that reason,
And for the season,
Let us be merry
Before we go !"

His term finished, he returned to Ireland, and soon after entered into the matrimonial state. The connexion, unhappily, does not appear to have contributed to the felicity of either of the parties ; and if it proved as distressful to the lady as it did to Curran, the greater commiseration is due to her, inasmuch as she had none of his counterbalancing incitements to that fervid employment of the mind which, engrossing its thoughts and faculties, keeps its sorrows buried for a time in the back-ground of its memory. Yet, Curran was a man of refined sensibility, and in his private hours, or in the society of those whom he admitted to his confidence, and in whose bosoms he could safely lodge the secret of his grief, gave powerful and indubitable testimony to the insufficiency of genius, and fame, and opulence, to fill up the dreary void created by domestic infelicity. If it be true that when corrupted, the best things become the worst, it is not less so that when that sacred and heart-binding engagement is broken which can alone knit together, or rather blend in one, the hearts, souls, minds, sympathies, and interests of two

beings—the sources of the purest and most delightful feelings of which our nature is susceptible, are converted into fountains of bitter and inexpressible misery. Curran commenced his professional career in 1775, when he was called to the Irish bar—at that period illumined by a constellation of talents superior perhaps to what it has ever since witnessed. Mr. Phillips has favoured us with some animated portraits of the more eminent. His sketch of Mr. John Scott, afterwards Lord Clonmell, is spirited and we believe from all that we have gathered respecting him, just—we extract from it the following anecdote :

"The death of Lord Clonmell is said to have originated in a very curious incident. In the year 1792, Mr. John Magee, the spirited proprietor of the Dublin Evening Post, had a fiat issued against him in a case of libel for a sum which the defendant thought excessive. The bench and the press were directly committed ; and in such a case, had a judge tenfold the power he has, he would be comparatively harmless. The subject made a noise—was brought before Parliament—and was at last (at least politically) set at rest by the defeat of the Chief Justice, and the restriction of the judges in future, in such cases, to an inferior and definite sum. Discomfited and mortified, Lord Clonmell retreated from the contest ; but he retreated like a harpooned leviathan—the barb was in his back, and Magee held the cordage. He made the life of his enemy a burden to him : he exposed his errors ; denied his merits ; magnified his mistakes ; ridiculed his pretensions ; and, continually edging without overstepping the boundary of libel, poured upon the Chief Justice from the battery of the press a perpetual broadside of sarcasm and invective. 'The man,' says Dr. Johnson, challenging Junius—'the man who vilifies established authority is sure to find an audience.' Lord Clonmell too fatally verifies the apothegm. Wherever he went he was lampooned by a ballad singer or laughed at by the populace. Nor was Magee's arsenal composed exclusively of paper ammunition : he rented a field bordering his lordship's highly improved and decorated demense ; he advertised month after month that on such a day he would exhibit in this field a *grand olympic pig hunt*—that the people, out of gratitude for their patronage of his newspaper, should be gratuitous spectators of this revived *classical* amusement, and that he was determined to make so amazing a provision of whiskey and porter, that if any man went home thirsty it should be his own fault. The plan completely succeeded : hundreds and

thousands assembled—every man did justice to his entertainer's hospitality, and his lordship's magnificent demense, uprooted and desolate, next day exhibited nothing but *the ruins of the olympic pig hunt!* The rebellion approached—the popular exasperation was at its height—and the end of it was, that Magee went mad with his victory, and Lord Clonmell died, literally broken hearted with his defeat and his apprehensions."

Our readers will, we think, join with us in awarding its due praise to the eloquence displayed in the notice of Walter Hussey Burgh.

"Another, but a very different character, at that time in high eminence at the Irish bar, was the justly celebrated Walter Hussey Burgh, a man revered by his profession, idolized by his friends, loved by the people, honoured by the crown, and highly respected even by those who differed from him. The history of no country, perhaps, hands down a character on its records upon which there exists less difference of opinion than that of Hussey Burgh. As a man, benevolent, friendly, sincere, and honest; as a barrister, learned, eloquent, ardent, and disinterested; as a senator, in power respected by the opposition—and out of it by the ministry; he was always allowed principle, and heard with delight. His life was one continued glow of intellectual splendour; and when he sunk, the bar, the senate, and the country felt a temporary eclipse. Of his eloquence, the reporters of that day were too ignorant faithfully to transmit any fair memorial to posterity; and the memory of his few remaining contemporaries rather retains the general admiration of its effect, than any particular specimen of his language. I have heard but of one sentence which has escaped un mutilated. Speaking of the oppressive laws which had coerced Ireland, and ended in the universal resistance of the people, and the establishment of the volunteers, he warmed by degrees into the following fine classical allusion: "Yes," said he, "such laws were sown like DRAGON'S TEETH in my country; but, thank God, the harvest has been *armed men!*" The fire of his manner, the silver tone of his voice, the inimitable graces of his action, all combined, gave such irresistible effect to this simple sentence so delivered, and addressed to an audience so prepared, that a universal burst of enthusiasm is said to have issued from the house, and to have been echoed by the galleries."

The character of Hely Hutchison appears to us drawn with too much indulgence. This gentleman seems to have bent his sole attention to the accumulation of mere wealth. Already opulent,

he still thirsted after *place*. The powers of his mind were unquestionably great, but unaccompanied by any thing like nobility of sentiment. All his views began and ended in himself and family. In the estimation of Hely Hutchison, Hely Hutchison was the sole object. He was a courtier, yet frequently at open war with the ministry. A master in dissimulation, he could smile with "*ineffable sweetness*" on the man he unjustly and meanly hated, and whom he would have ruined. He seemed to possess no fellow-feeling with mankind, and regarded his friend simply as one who might contribute to his interests. Some of the measures he advocated were, doubtless, beneficial in their tendency, yet we cannot call him a patriot, since on such occasions he seemed to be influenced rather by a spirit of arrogant opposition, than by the sound and generous views of a BURGH and a CURRAN. That he was an *extraordinary* man, we grant—that he was blessed or cursed with great talents, we are also willing to allow—but he was destitute of feeling—his views were sordid—his ambition was grovelling—and his character altogether wanting in that moral grace and beauty which lends to talent its chiefest charm, and without which genius is deprived of half its power, and science of half its value.

"Another barrister, who had immediately preceded the period of Mr. Curran, was the Right Hon. JOHN HELY HUTCHISON, the founder of a very distinguished family. From every account, he must have been a most extraordinary personage. After having amassed a large fortune at the bar, and held a distinguished seat in the senate, he accepted the provostship of Trinity College, and was, I believe, the first person promoted to that rank who had not previously obtained a fellowship. His appointment gave great offence to the university; but he little heeded the resentment which was the consequence of any pecuniary promotion; and, indeed, such was his notoriety in this respect, that Lord Townsend, wearied out with his applications, is reported to have exclaimed, 'By G—! if I gave Hutchison England and Ireland for an estate, he would solicit the Isle of Man for a *potato garden!*' The whole College combined against him, but it was only to prove the imbecility of mere book-worms when opposed to a man

of the world. 'The Provost,' said Goldsmith, 'stands like an arch—every additional pressure only shows his strength.' He justified the observation—withstood all his enemies—and is said, when he was at the head of the university, actually to have had one of his daughters gazetted for a majority of horse, which commission she held for several days, until an opportunity offered for her *selling out to advantage!* It will readily be believed that the man who could thus captivate the court and command the university, must have been no very ordinary personage. Yet he owed his power much more to his genius than his servility. With no common influence at the castle, he is well known to have differed with ministers upon the most important questions—among the rest, the Catholic; and to have re-seated himself upon the Treasury bench with an influence rendered more respectable by the proofs of his independence. It is very true that he provided amply for his family: and I am glad he did so, because on many occasions they have proved themselves ornaments to their country. If it was a weakness, it was at all events an amiable one; and few there were in political life who have had the good fortune to find in the merits of its objects such a justification for their partiality. The Provost seemed to have been born a courtier. He had the power beyond almost all men of disguising his emotions; and when he chose, you might just as easily have extorted from a mask as from his countenance what was passing within him. Of this faculty there is a memorable instance given in his treatment of Dr. Magee, the present Dean of Cork, and author of the celebrated work on the Atonement. Hutchison was Provost, and had proposed his son for the representation of the university. Magee was a fellow, and had a vote. The fellows, after a certain time, must be ordained, unless they obtain dispensation from the Provost; and such a dispensation was the wish next Magee's heart, as his rare talents must have raised him to the very highest station at the bar. He was given to understand it would be granted provided he voted for the Provost's son. This, however, a previous promise, (which, of course, he was too honourable to violate) withheld him from doing. The Provost had just heard of the refusal, and was in a paroxysm of rage, when Magee came to solicit the dispensation: his face was instantly all sunshine; with the most ineffable sweetness he took the offending applicant by the hand—'My dear Sir, consider,' said he, '*I am placed guardian over the youth of Ireland—How could I answer it to my conscience or my country if I deprived the university of such a tutor!*'—'Never,' said Magee, repeating the anecdote, 'never did politician look deceit so admirably.' The three barristers whom I have thus indiscriminately selected, were lost in a crowd of others equally eminent

at the Irish bar, at this interesting epoch in Mr. Curran's life. Of the immediate contemporaries who commenced the race of competition along with him, we shall find many eminently distinguished both in the legal and parliamentary history of the country."

CURRAN, for a considerable period, resided in a "miserable lodging upon *Hog-Hill*," a place in the neighbourhood of Dublin. Previously to his removal, he had attended the sessions at Cork, where, however, his success gave no public indication of his future fame. Nor, at first, did his prospects in the metropolis wear a better aspect. He was idle by compulsion, and despondency was beginning to prey upon him, when the friendship of Mr. Arthur Wolfe, (afterwards Lord Kilwarden,) who had frequently conversed with him, and who appreciated his talents, proved the means of alleviating his distress, and showing to him the paths of opulence and renown. We cannot do better than to relate this incident, so honourable to both parties, in the words of Curran.

" 'I then lived,' said he, 'upon *Hog-Hill*; my wife and children were the chief furniture of my apartments; and as to my rent, it stood pretty much the same chance of its liquidation with the national debt. Mrs. Curran, however, was a barrister's lady, and what she wanted in wealth she was well determined should be supplied by dignity. The landlady, on the other hand, had no idea of any gradation except that of pounds, shillings, and pence. I walked out one morning to avoid the perpetual altercations on the subject, with my mind, you may imagine, in no very enviable temperament. I fell into the gloom to which, from my infancy, I had been occasionally subject. I had a family for whom I had no dinner; and a landlady for whom I had no rent. I had gone abroad in despondence—I returned home almost in desperation. When I opened the door of my study, where *Lavater* alone could have found a library, the first object which presented itself was an immense folio of a brief, twenty golden guineas wrapped up beside it, and the name of *Old Bob Lyons* marked upon the back of it. I paid my landlady—bought a good dinner—gave Bob Lyons a share of it—and that dinner was the date of my prosperity.' "

From this period his affairs flowed on in an uninterrupted tide of prosperity, and he very shortly became the most eminent practitioner at the Irish bar

Had we space and leisure, we should gladly trace this eminent advocate through his professional career; but all that we can afford to do now is to present our readers with a few anecdotes, not, we believe, generally known. The following passage, relating to an attempt made on his life, will be read with interest. A stronger instance of early and determined wickedness is not to be found in the records of depravity.

"In one of these excursions a very singular circumstance had almost rendered this the period of his biography. He was on a temporary visit to the neighbouring town of Sligo, and was one morning standing at his bed-room window, which overlooked the street, occupied, as he told me, in arranging his portmanteau, when he was stunned by the report of a blunderbuss in the very chamber with him; and the panes above his head were all shivered into atoms! He looked suddenly around in the greatest consternation. The room was full of smoke—the blunderbuss on the floor just discharged—the door closed, and no human being but himself discoverable in the apartment! If this had happened in his rural retreat, it could readily have been reconciled through the medium of some offended spirit of the village mythology; but, as it was, he was in a populous town—in a civilized family—amongst Christian doctrines, where the fairies had no power, and their gambols no currency; and, to crown all, a poor cobbler, into whose stall on the opposite side of the street the slugs had penetrated, hinted in no very equivocal terms, that the whole affair was a conspiracy against his life. It was by no means a pleasant addition to the chances of assassination, to be loudly declaimed against by a crazed mechanic as an assassin himself. Day after day passed away without any solution of the mystery, when one evening, as the servants of the family were conversing round the fire on so miraculous an escape, a little urchin, not ten years old, was heard so to wonder how *such an aim* was missed, that a universal suspicion was immediately excited. He was alternately flogged and coaxed into a confession, which disclosed as much precocious and malignant premeditation as perhaps ever marked the annals of juvenile depravity. This little miscreant had received a box on the ear from Mr. Curran for some alleged misconduct a few days before; the Moor's blow did not sink deeper into a mind more furious for revenge, or more predisposed by nature for such deadly impressions. He was in the bed-room by mere chance, when Mr. Curran entered. He immediately hid himself in the curtains till he observed him too busy with his port-

manteau for observation. He then levelled at him the old blunderbuss which lay charged in the corner, the stiffness of whose trigger, too strong for his infant fingers, alone prevented the aim from which he confessed he had taken, and which had so nearly terminated the occupations of the cobbler. The door was a-jar, and mid the smoke and terror he easily slipped out without discovery."

Mr. Phillips has given us several instances of Curran's wit, and talent as a punster. We select a few:

"Inquiring his master's age from a horse jockey's servant, he found it almost impossible to extract an answer. 'Come, come, friend—has he not lost his teeth?'—'Do you think,' retorted the fellow, 'that I know his age as he does his horse's, by the *mark of mouth*?' The laugh was against Curran, but he instantly recovered—'You were very right not to try, friend; for you know your master's a *great bite*.'"

"He was just rising to cross-examine a witness before a judge who could not comprehend any jest which was not written in *black letter*. Before he said a single word the witness began to laugh. 'What are you laughing at, friend—what are you laughing at? Let me tell you that a laugh without a joke is like—is like——' 'Like what, Mr. Curran?' asked the Judge, imagining he was nonplussed—'Just exactly, my Lord, like a *contingent remainder* without any particular *estate* to support it.' I am afraid none but my legal readers will understand the admirable felicity of the similitude, but it was quite to his Lordship's fancy, and rivalled with him all 'the wit that Rabelais ever scattered.'"

"Examining a country squire who disputed a collier's bill: 'Did he not give you the *coals*, friend?'—'He did, Sir, but ——' 'But what?—on your oath was n't your payment *slack*?'"

"It was thus that in some way or other he contrived to throw the witnesses off their centre, and he took care they seldom should recover it. 'My lard—my lard'—vociferated the peasant witness, writhing under this mental excruciation—'My lard my lard—I can't answer yon little gentleman, *he's putting me in such a doldrum*.'—'A doldrum!' Mr. Curran, what does he mean by a *doldrum*?' exclaimed Lord Avonmore. 'O! my Lord, it's a very common complaint with persons of this description—it's merely a *confusion of the head arising from a corruption of the heart*.'"

"To the bench he was at times quite as unceremonious; and if he thought himself reflected on or interfered with, had instant

recourse either to ridicule or invective. There is a celebrated reply in circulation of Mr. Dunning to a remark of Lord Mansfield, who curtly exclaimed at one of his legal positions, 'O! if that be law, Mr. Dunning, I may burn my law books!'—'Better read them, my Lord,' was the sarcastic and appropriate rejoinder.

"In a different spirit, but with similar effect, was Mr. Curran's retort upon an Irish judge, quite as remarkable for his good humour and raillery as for his legal researches. He was addressing a jury on one of the state trials, in 1803, with his usual animation. The judge, whose political bias, if any a judge can have, was certainly supposed not to be favourable to the prisoner, *shook his head* in doubt or denial of one of the advocate's arguments. 'I see, gentlemen,' said Mr. Curran, 'I see the motion of his Lordship's head: common observers might imagine that implied a difference of opinion, but they would be mistaken—it is merely accidental—believe me, gentlemen, if you remain here many days, you will yourselves perceive, that when his Lordship *shakes his head* there's *nothing in it!*'"

There is another anecdote related by his biographer which we cannot withhold. It evinces, in a very forcible manner, the independence of spirit which actuated Curran through his whole life, and which, perhaps, was never more conspicuously shown than while he was yet struggling with adversity. The individual who excited the rebuke was a Judge Robinson.

"I have every reason, from Mr. Curran's own report, to believe the character given of this Robinson by the historian of the foregoing anecdote. If he does not affect the 'nostrils of posterity' in precisely the same manner which has been prophesied, with more strength than delicacy, of a worthy judicial predecessor, it is only because he will never reach them. Future ages, however, may very easily esteem him more highly than did his own generation. Indeed, it was currently reported, perhaps untruly, that he had risen to his rank by the publication of some political pamphlets, only remarkable for their senseless, slavish, and envenomed scurrility. This fellow, when poor Curran was struggling with adversity, and straining every nerve in one of his infant professional exertions, made a most unfeeling effort to extinguish him: he had declared, in combating some opinion of his adversary, that *he had consulted all his law books*, and could not find a single case in which the principle contended for, was established: 'I suspect, Sir,' said the heartless blockhead, 'I suspect that your law library is rather contracted!' so brutal a re-

mark applied from the bench to any young man of ordinary pretensions would infallibly have crushed him; but when any pressure was attempted upon Curran, he never failed to rise with redoubled elasticity; he eyed the judge for a moment in the most contemptuous silence:—'It is very true, my Lord, that I am poor, and the circumstance has certainly rather curtailed my library; my books are not numerous, but they are select, and I hope have been perused with proper dispositions; I have prepared myself for this high profession rather by the study of a few good books than *by the composition of a great many bad ones*. I am not ashamed of my poverty, but I should be of my wealth, could I stoop to acquire it by servility and corruption. If I rise not to rank, I shall at least be honest; and should I ever cease to be so, many an example shows me, that an ill-acquired elevation, by making me the more conspicuous, would only make me the more universally and the more notoriously contemptible.' Robinson looked all that his nature would allow him, rather astonished than abashed; but I could not learn that he ever after volunteered himself into a similar altercation."

We shall conclude with the account of a Society, called "The Monks of the Screw," of which Curran was a distinguished member, and which comprehended the first characters of the age and country, with respect both to rank and talent.

"It met on every Saturday, during the law term, in a large house in Kevin's-street, the property of the late Lord Tracton, and now converted into a Seneschal's Court! The furniture and regulations of their festive apartment were completely *monkish*, and they owed both their title and their foundation to an original society formed near New-Market, by Lord Avonmore; of which he drew up the rules in very quaint and comic monkish Latin verse. The reader may have some idea of what a delightful intercourse this society must have afforded, when he hears that Flood, Grattan, Curran, Father O'Leary, Lord Charlemont, Judges Day, Chamberlain, and Metge; Bowes Daly, George Ogle, Lord Avonmore, Mr. Keller, and a whole host of such men, were amongst its members. Curran was installed Grand Prior of the order, and deputed to compose the charter song. I have often heard him repeat it at his own table in a droll kind of recitative, but it is a little too bacchanalian for publication. It began thus—

1

When Saint Patrick our order created,
And called us the Monks of the Screw,
Good rules he revealed to our Abbott,
To guide us in what we should do.

2

But first he replenished his fountain
With liquor the best in the sky,
And he swore by the word of his saintship,
That fountain should never run dry.

3

My children, be chaste till you're tempted—
While sober, be wise and discreet—
And humble your bodies with fasting,
Whene'er you've got nothing to eat.

4

Then be not a glass in the Convent,
Except on a festival, found—
And this rule to enforce, I ordain it
A festival—all the year round.

Saint Patrick, the tutelary idol of the country, was their patron saint; and his Lilliputian statue, mitred and crosiered, after having for years consecrated their monkish revels, was transferred to the convivial sideboard of the Priory. If that little statue was half as sensitive to the beams of wit, as the work of Memnon was to the sunbeam, how often would its immortal master have made it eloquent!"

It is but justice to say, that Mr. Phillips appears to greater advantage in this,

than in any of his former publications. He is evidently improved both in thought and diction. He appears to have discovered at length that something more than mere imagination is required in a writer, and that an eternal succession of tropes and metaphors is only calculated to produce satiety and disgust. The style of the present volume is generally strong, clear, and pointed. There are, unquestionably, many passages we could wish to see either expunged or altered; but the book, on the whole, shows so considerable an improvement in the essentials of good composition, that we cannot dismiss it without saying that we regard it as the forerunner of higher achievements, and as an evidence that Mr. Phillips has already begun to tread in the path that has conducted so many of his professional predecessors to the heights of a splendid and enduring fame.

G.

ART. 5. *History of the British and Foreign Bible Society, Abridged.* By a Member of the Parent Society, and Citizen of the State of New-York.

[Continued from vol. iii. page 383.]

In our Number for September last, our readers will remember the commencement of an abridged history of the British and Foreign Bible Society. We have the pleasure of presenting them with the continuation of that abridged history in the present number, and of stating that the whole of the abridgement is now in our possession, and will be published in successive numbers until completed. Besides furnishing an abstract of Owen's large work, the abridgement contains many facts not to be found therein.

IN September, it was determined to print at Cambridge 20,000 Welsh Bibles in duodecimo, and 5000 Testaments, in stereotype. This art, though many years partially known, had been considerably improved by the united ingenuity of the

Earl of Stanhope and Mr. Wilson: the latter gentleman had qualified it for being advantageously employed in printing the Holy Scriptures, and having recently proposed it to the University of Cambridge, the Syndics of the press had concluded to adopt his process. A singular coincidence is remarkable in the point of time, at which the great operations of the Society were ready to commence, and the introduction of that mode of printing, which has become so powerful an engine in its service.

In the spirit of that clause, in the second law of the constitution, which says, that the Society shall add its endeavours to those employed by other Societies for circulating the Scriptures through the British dominions, a communication was made by the President to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge in Eng-

land, and the Association for discountenancing Vice, and Promoting the Knowledge and Practice of the Christian Religion in Ireland, accompanied with a plan of the Institution. By the Dublin Association, the proffered assistance was cheerfully embraced; and the demand for the Scriptures amongst the Irish was represented as daily increasing, and exceeding the means of the association to supply. A circular letter was also addressed to the parochial clergy, dissenting ministers, and other respectable individuals throughout the united kingdom; from many of whom assurances were received of the most ready and active co-operation.

Whilst these measures, assisted by the zeal of individuals, greatly contributed to increase the Society's friends and supporters at home, the proposition before adverted to, led to the foundation of the first Foreign Bible Society at Nuremberg, on the 10th of May, 1804, accompanied by the warmest co-operation and expressions of gratitude to the generosity of England, by many individuals of piety and influence in that imperial city. And this auspicious event was shortly afterwards followed up by a determination to print there, 5000 copies of a Protestant New Testament.

A warm approbation of the Society's motives, with intelligence relative to the versions of the Scriptures in the Wurtemberg library, amounting to more than 4000, different editions of the Bible, or parts of it, was returned from that quarter. In Sweden and Holland it appeared there was an opinion (entertained indeed by many respectable individuals with respect to England) that no scarcity of the Scriptures existed; but, as a very opposite account was received from the Rev. Mr. Jœnicke, minister of the Protestant Bohemian congregation at Berlin, with respect to the state of the population of Bohemia, and it appearing that a recent attempt to publish an edition of the Bohemian Bible had failed, from the want of adequate means, a sum of 100*l.* was tendered to promote the formation of a Bible Society at Berlin, similar to the encour-

agement which operated so successfully at Nuremberg.

But of all the communications from the European continent, that which excited the greatest admiration and surprise, was an address from a Roman Catholic clergyman in Suabia, replete with the most affectionate and liberal sentiments, and evincing an ardent desire, in the language of his letter, to co-operate "*in sending forth the pure Word of God as the best teacher, into the world:*" and disclaiming the idea, that the use of the Bible had ever been prohibited to Catholics. This was accompanied by an assurance, that the people became more and more desirous to possess the Bible, which there was an increasing disposition amongst the clergy, not only to tolerate, but commend. The excellent author of the letter, though he foresaw many difficulties in the attempt, professed his desire to set on foot a Bible Society amongst the Roman Catholics. This unexpected communication was received with the highest gratification, and hailed as the most favourable prognostic by the enlightened friends of the cause, particularly the venerable Bishop Porteous; and the committee immediately resolved to place 1000 copies of the Protestant New Testament, then printing at Nuremberg, at the disposal of this zealous correspondent, for distribution in Suabia and Bavaria.

The measures adopted for the supply of the United Kingdom with Bibles, in the English and Welsh languages, were prosecuted with as much speed as the stereotype process would admit. A translation had been made of St John's Gospel into the Mohawk language, by Norton, one of the chiefs of the Six Nations, who had been established on a fine tract of country in Upper Canada, with the paternal views and policy on the part of the British government, of introducing among them, settled and agricultural habits. The chief was at this time on a visit to England, principally with the view of obtaining a confirmation of the grant to his countrymen. The Mohawks are the eldest of the Six Nations, or Iroquois, (whose

languages are from the same root) and were the most distinguished and warlike tribe in North-America. Select portions of the Old and New Testament, and the entire Gospel of St. Mark, had been translated for them by Captain Brant, who had previously directed the affairs of the colony; and the Gospel of St. Matthew also, and many chapters of the Old and New Testament, had been printed for their use, at the expense of the British government. The translator had prepared an affectionate and pious address to the Six Nations, as an accompaniment to his version; but the superintending sub-committee conceived it their duty to separate every thing extraneous from the Sacred Volume, as incompatible with a fundamental principle of the institution, which suffered no additional matter to be incorporated with the Bible.

About the commencement of the year 1805, the foundation was laid of that Biblical Library of the Society, which has since become so considerable and important. It was a very natural desire to possess such copies as could be procured of all the existing versions of the Scriptures, that the Society might not be at a loss for a standard edition, or the means of collation, whenever they might be induced to print on their own account. In consequence it was determined that of every edition printed under their auspices, six copies should be lodged in the Society's depository. As an appeal was, at the same time, made to the public munificence—Granville Sharpe, Esq. presented the new library with thirty-nine copies of the Holy Scriptures, or portions of them in various languages, together with the Irish and Italian versions of the English Liturgy. A very handsome acknowledgement was made for this valuable present by the President, in a letter to the truly estimable donor.

A transaction at this time occurred which, instead of involving the credit of either of the two distinguished Societies established in England, for advancing the cause of Divine Truth, as in the spirit of controversy it was supposed, evinces ra-

ther their mutual utility in watching with a jealous eye over the purity of the Sacred Text, and stimulating each others exertions in the common cause.

As it had been determined to print an edition of Welsh Bibles and Testaments, the Rev. Thomas Charles, of Bala, was employed as a person fully competent from his knowledge of the language, to prepare a copy for the press; but whilst the work was in progress at Cambridge, under the sanction of the University, to print from the Oxford copy of 1799, revised by Mr. Charles, a complaint was made by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, upon the authority of Mr. Roberts, a respectable clergyman who had superintended the Oxford edition of 1792, that improper alterations had been made by Mr. Charles, in the orthography of the Welsh Version. The Society, and its President, listened with promptitude and candour to the complaint, and steps had been taken to obtain the impartial decision of a Welsh scholar of acknowledged reputation, the Rev. Walter Davies, of Myford; when intelligence was received, that the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge had passed a resolution to print 20,000 Bibles from the edition of 1746, (by a subsequent resolution altered to that of 1752.) In consequence the Committee, desirous of preserving uniformity in the text, adopted the same standard.

An attack was at this period made by a writer styling himself a Country Clergyman, on the heterogenous union of members of the Society as hostile to the established church, and calculated to propagate schism; aware of the mischievous-influence of such apprehensions, the Episcopal patrons of the Society, with the President, formally examined the conduct of the Committee, and found every reason to be perfectly satisfied with their proceedings; Mr. Owen, therefore, at the request of the Bishop of London, published a letter in answer to the attack, styling himself a Suburban Clergyman.

In the mean time, from several foreign and domestic communications, the affairs

of the Society assumed the most favourable aspect. Its friends at Basle announced a desire to form a similar Society for that town and its vicinity; but, from local difficulties at the moment, they determined to unite their exertions with their brethren at Nuremberg. An interesting letter from the Rev. Mr. Obelin, a clergyman in Alsace, who had been supplied with funds for the purchase of Bibles to be distributed in his parish, described circumstantially, and with much pastoral simplicity, several of the amiable objects on whom he proposed to confer the sacred gift.

From Scotland also, about the same time, very favourable intelligence was received; the Committee of the Society, through the medium of Robert Steven, Esq. had enlisted the late pious and philanthropic David Dale, Esq. of Glasgow, in their cause; and, through his prompt and wise exertions, the Presbytery of Glasgow resolved on making a general collection in all the churches within their bounds. The successful example of the Presbytery was shortly afterwards followed by the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr. To the late Reverend Dr. Dalrymple, minister of Ayr, belongs the honour of having brought the proposition under the favorable consideration of the Synod. In a letter to his friend, Mr. Dale, written in the 32d. year of his age, he congratulates him "That they had lived to see the day of a British and Foreign Bible Society," and assures him of his devotion to so glorious a cause.

The first anniversary of the Society was celebrated on the 1st. of May, 1805, and presented a most gratifying spectacle. The President read the report, which he had prepared himself at the instance of the Committee; and the Bishop of Durham, in a speech, in which the characters of the Prelate and the Christian were equally sustained, moved the thanks of the meeting to his lordship, for his faithful, zealous, and persevering attention to the business of the institution; the scene presented on this interesting occasion (according to Mr. Owen) was distinguished by features, which gave it

an irresistible influence over the kindest and most elevated affections of the heart. Persons of various communions, circumstances, and stations; the Prelate, and the Presbyterian, the Lutheran and the Calvinist, the Peer and the Quaker, here mingled in new and undissembling concord, and agreeing in the truth of God's Holy Word, mutually expressed their determination to live in unity and godly love.

SECOND YEAR.

(From the 1st May, 1805, to the 1st May, 1806.)

The anniversary meeting, and the distribution of the report and documents explanatory of its principles, consolidated greatly the internal resources of the Society, and led to its acquiring a considerable ascendancy in the public estimation. In Wales, this was particularly evident from the liberality of the contributions; and in Ireland the public mind was favourably stimulated by the dispersion of the intelligence. Scotland, with its characteristic sagacity, at once perceived the extent and importance of the plan, and the Society incorporated in that country, by royal charter, for propagating Christian Knowledge, prefacing a resolution with the recital, that the Committee of Directors highly approved of the admirable institution of the British and Foreign Bible Society, as proposing one of the best conceivable means for the speedy and universal diffusion of the Gospel, resolved, at the instance of R. S. Moncrief, Esq. to unite their efforts to attain so desirable an end, and appointed a sub-committee of their Society to correspond with the Bible Society in London, and to adopt measures for obtaining local contributions; a foundation was thus laid in Scotland, for a deep and permanent interest in favour of the Society; and a collection on its behalf throughout the bounds of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, was one of the earliest and most beneficial results. This solemn recognition of a Society, in which bishops presided, and sects co-operated, emanating from bodies whose ecclesiastical constitution renders

them almost equally opposed to prelacy and separation, evinced a spirit of Christian generosity which cannot be too highly commended. The memorial of it will form an honourable record in the religious history of Scotland.

In England, the effect of those publications which announced the existence of the Society was not so immediate. The seed, which has since abundantly sprung up, remained for a considerable period buried under the soil, and manifested itself by slower degrees, and, for a considerable time, with inferior demonstrations of liberality and zeal.

An occurrence is next to be noticed, which proves that the enlightened views of the Roman Catholic clergyman in Suabia, were not peculiar to himself. His brethren at Ratisbon, having witnessed the proceedings of the Protestants at Nuremberg, set on foot a Catholic Bible Society, under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Wittman, Director of the Ecclesiastical Seminary at Ratisbon.—His address to the German Catholics on the occasion is peculiarly simple, clear, and affecting. The following passage is singularly impressive: "Many excellent persons do not find, in the public religious instruction, that for which they hunger; they are also often in the confessional only judged for their outward deeds, without being led to an acknowledgment of their inward corruption, and to faith in the blood of Jesus their Redeemer: if these could read the Holy Scriptures of the New Testament, in the quiet time of holidays, their faith in the simple doctrines from the mouth of Jesus Christ, would, by the mercy of their Saviour, be thereby enlivened," &c. A circumstance occurred at the formation of this Society, which evinces the scrupulous exactness with which the Committee of the parent Society always administered its funds. The copies of the Protestant New Testament, printed at Nuremberg, which, by the resolution before mentioned, had been destined for distribution in Suabia and Bavaria, had been commuted for an equal number of Catholic Testaments, from

the proposed depository at Ratisbon. But as the sense of the parties from whom the original grant proceeded, had not been taken on the subject, the Committee felt themselves constrained, on principle, to refuse their sanction. Several members of the Committee, however, in their private capacity, to prevent the slightest imputation of illiberality, united to defray the charge of the Testaments ordered at Ratisbon; and the original grant continued in force. Another circumstance at the origin of this institution occurred, which affords a brilliant example to Christians of every description. In a printed address on the completion of the first impression of their Testaments on standing types, in which our brethren at Nuremberg solicit assistance from their German fellow-christians, to enable them to print the entire Bible in a similar manner, for which they had received a further grant of 200*l.* from the British Society:—"The printing of the New Testament," they state, "was delayed by several circumstances, one of which will afford pleasure to the friends of the Bible. The very same person who had to cast the types for our New Testament, received nearly at the same time, an order to cast the types for another New Testament, which is to be printed for the use of the Roman Catholic Christians, under the direction of some very worthy and truly enlightened clergymen of that persuasion." This may be referred to as the commencement of an era at which Catholics and Protestants have reciprocated expressions of kindness, and conspired to promote the distribution of the Scriptures amongst the people. The same address acknowledged the warm encouragement given to the Nuremberg Society, in different parts of Germany and Switzerland, and cited instances of individual liberality, which testified how truly the hearts of the people were alive to the interests of vital religion.

Dr. Knapp, at Halle, had given a friendly reception to the overture made by the Society, in 1804, and invited their attention to a depository of Bibles and

Testaments, (ready for immediate distribution,) over which he presided, called the Caustein Bible Institution. It was founded at Halle, in 1710, by the Baron de Caustein, and the care of it had devolved on the Director (then Dr. Halle) of a charitable establishment in that city, called the Orphan House. From the period of its foundation, above three millions of the Bible or Testament had been printed in different languages, and many thousand copies had been dispensed gratuitously to the poor. In 1735, King Frederick William granted this Institution the privilege of establishing a separate printing-office, and in consequence a large building for this purpose was annexed to the Orphan House, in which Dr. Knapp represented there was always a large supply ready for sale, and offered to execute the orders of the Society. As Dr. Knapp appeared to possess the means and disposition to co-operate in its views, he was particularly requested to furnish information from what quarters a demand for the Scriptures on the Caustein Institution might be expected, and by what mode the Society might best assist the distribution.

At the commencement of this year, by the exertions of the Rev. John Joënicke, the foundation had been laid of a Bible Society at Berlin, under the direction of some noblemen and persons of character and distinction, which received the sanction of the king. The British Society having previously promised a donation of 100*l.* redeemed its pledge, and added an equal sum, as an inducement to the newly established Society to extend the undertaking of printing a Bohemian Bible, to an impression also of a Polish Bible, which was urgently demanded.

To advert next to the home occurrences of the year;—a stereotype impression of an octavo English Testament having been prepared, it was circulated through the medium of individuals and Sunday schools, with the Society's imprint in the title page; (a mark of authenticity, since affixed also to their books, by the Society for Promoting Christian

Knowledge, and the Russian Bible Society.) Other religious institutions in Great Britain, were liberally permitted to share with the Society in the benefit of its arrangements with the University of Cambridge.

An important and interesting event to be recorded in the transactions also at home, is the establishment of a Bible Society at Dublin. An Association (which has been previously noticed) was formed in 1792, for discountenancing vice, and promoting the knowledge and practice of the Christian religion; and as it had experienced a considerable accession to its funds, by a donation from an unknown benefactor, for the sole purpose of distributing the Scriptures, it was determined to pursue that object with the utmost vigour. "We acknowledge," say the managers, in a striking passage of their address to the public, "with satisfaction and gratitude, the valuable labours of those who defend Christianity by the weapons of argument. But we venture to assert, *that the most popular, as well as the most effectual defence of Christianity, must ever consist in the exhibition of its own native beauties, as seen in the clear mirror of God's word.* It is obvious that, to the lower classes in particular, an elaborate detail of the evidence must, in most instances, be uninteresting and unsuitable. They have neither the time nor the habits necessary for receiving conviction in that way. But the man of narrowest capacity, who has only common sense and honesty, will scarcely fail, on perusing the Bible itself, to discover at once that the rules it lays down, tend directly to make him good and happy: he will recognize in it a language speaking directly to the heart, and conveying an intrinsic and almost irresistible evidence of sincerity and truth." According to a report made in 1796, through the Rev. Dr. Magee, the dissemination went on with rapidity: but the supply being inadequate, in 1801, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, presented the Association with 1450 Bibles, and the demand continued to in-

crease. At the period of the formation of the British Society, many Catholics, as well as Protestants, evinced a desire to promote its object. Every thing which the most ardent zeal could dictate, had been attempted on the part of the Association; but it was very justly considered, that the requisite exertions could be more effectually concentrated by a society devoted to one object, than by an institution embracing several. On this ground the friends of the Bible cause at first proposed to incorporate themselves with the parent Society, but afterwards agreed, that an independent establishment in Dublin, directed to the supply of their own population, would excite more local interest and exertion in their favour. It was therefore judged most expedient to set on foot a distinct society in Dublin, for the service of Ireland, which was recognized by the Bible Society, and an intercourse established, which, after some obstruction, has ripened into the most satisfactory connexion.

A great want of the Scriptures, from the representation of the Society's informants, was felt throughout the Highlands of Scotland: Sky, the most extensive of the Western Islands, being found almost destitute of a single copy: it was therefore determined to print a Gaelic edition, for the use of 350,000 persons, of which, according to an estimate in 1803, the Highland population consisted, and of whom 300,000 were ignorant of any other language. It was thought expedient to employ on this occasion, the text accredited and used by the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge: when addressed on the subject, that respectable body, though occupied themselves in preparing an edition, afforded the most cordial assistance, and fully supported the professions of interest they had before made in favour of the Society.

About the same time, measures were taken to relieve the deplorable want experienced by the prisoners of war at that time in England, amounting to nearly 30,000 persons. The spiritual bounty of the Society was conveyed to the many

receptacles of ignorance, misery, and vice, in which they were conveyed. On no occasion so striking, as in this commerce of pure benevolence, was the beautiful system of practical philanthropy, inculcated by our religion, more pleasingly illustrated, infusing itself into the darkest recesses of the human heart, and allaying its most malignant passions. In supplying the German aliens in England, the Society at Nuremberg contributed also, by an order for one thousand Testaments of their edition lately completed.

These operations of the Society were accompanied by an extensive communication to the public of its reports, which were circulated through many respectable channels. Associations were in consequence formed by an active spirit of co-operation, excited at London and Birmingham, on a principle of combined individual assistance, after the example of the collections in the Scotch Presbyteries introduced at Glasgow. These associations led the way to the subsequent formation of auxiliary societies. The address of the London Society, which we regret that the limits of our abridgment will not allow us to transcribe, shows that the principle of an Institution, afterwards matured into that useful instrument, for promoting the general cause, had then been perfectly conceived. Actuated by the same spirit, the Rev. Edward Brown, the highly respected minister of St. Mary's, Birmingham, set on foot an association, with the ready co-operation of the different dissenting ministers in that town; and a meeting was held, at which George Simcox, Esq. a gentleman of the most estimable character, presided.

Such were the exhilarating prospects which opened in various quarters during the second year of the Society's existence. Its funds had now experienced an increase of 300*l.* in annual subscriptions; whilst 1000*l.* were, during the same time, contributed in Wales, and 4000*l.* in Scotland.

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We shall purposely leave unnoticed any thing further in vindication of the

views and tendency of the Society. The controversy on this subject has been decided by a great majority of the most pious and intelligent persons in the kingdom. To revert, therefore, to fundamental points, would divert our attention

too much from the important events which have succeeded, and which render the progress of the Bible Society at present the cause of the greater part of the civilized world.

(To be continued.)

ART. 6. ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Description of two ranges of Mountains in the State of Massachusetts; in a Letter from Chester Dewey, Esq. Professor, &c. in Williams College, to Samuel L. Mitchill, dated January 12, 1819.

DEAR SIR,

HAVING read the account of the mountains of New-England, addressed to you and published in the Monthly Magazine for last month, I take the liberty to send you the following. That communication, so far as I am acquainted, is very correct, and contains the most full account of our mountains which I have read, though confined principally to the mountains of Vermont and New-Hampshire. Two elevated mountains in Massachusetts are entirely omitted. The one is Saddle Mountain, between Williamstown and Adams, in this state. It has its name from its resemblance, when seen at a distance, to a saddle, and is much higher than any other mountain in the state. Though nearly insulated, it belongs to the range which separates Connecticut River from the Housatonic, and lies about 14 miles E. of S. from Mount Anthony, between Pownal and Bennington, (Vermont.) Gray Lock, the highest and southern peak, lies about 5 miles E. of S. from the College in Williamstown, and is much higher than any of the Green Mountains till you pass several miles to the north, being about 2800 feet above the College, and probably nearly 4000 feet above the tide-water of the Hudson. The north peak, in full view from the valley of Williamstown, is 2300 feet in height. A lower range lies a little west of these peaks. The whole

forms a noble mountain, of rapid elevation, covered to its summit with lofty trees. The beautiful *Pinus Traseri* is found on its vertex, with others much more common. The range, to which Saddle Mountain belongs, presents no very elevated points to the south, though it is every where a high ridge.

The western, or Taconick range, which divides Massachusetts from New-York, is much more broken: roads of easy passage cross through its hollows in several places. It has been generally said to unite with the other range in the S. W. part of Vermont, and both together to form the Green Mountains. Captain Partridge states, however, that the two ranges are plainly distinct in Vermont. It is certainly desirable, in a geographical respect, to keep them distinct, if this be the fact. To the north of this place this range has no elevation, I presume, which exceeds 1600 feet. The same is true towards the south, till you come to the S. W. corner of Massachusetts. Taconick has two elevated peaks on the west of Sheffield. The highest is about 2300 feet above the plain in that town. The Housatonic flows three or four miles from its east base, with a slow meandering stream. Between Canaan and Salisbury, (Conn.) it falls at once 70 feet, and 200 feet in the course of a few miles. Perhaps 2800 feet would not be a high estimate for the elevation of Taconick above the ocean. There is a considerable elevation still further south, in Connecticut, but its altitude has not been ascertained.

These two ranges of mountains bound Berkshire county on the east and west.

The rocks of the east range are *granite*, *guiness*, and *mica slate*, principally. The *Taconick* range is generally composed of *argillite*, *chlorite slate*, &c. The east base of *Taconick* mountain is a coarse grained, porous, gray limestone. Through the whole extent of the valley, is abundance of *granular limestone*, which extends south nearly to Long-Island sound, and north, perhaps, to Canada.

These ranges are crossed by east and west roads, in three places, in Berkshire county. They are all stage-roads, from Albany to Boston. The *north* rout is through Williamstown, over the mountain between Adams and Florida, to Greenfield, on Connecticut River. The *west range* is crossed with ease; and the *east*, at a less elevation than on the other two roads. A road is also now working from Williamstown, over the west range, to Troy, and will shorten the distance 11 miles. The *middle* road passes through Pittsfield, over the east range in Peru, to Northampton. The hills on this route are higher than on the others; but it is a road of great travel. The *south* road crosses the west range in West-Stockbridge, at a moderate elevation, and passing through Stockbridge, rises the east range in Becket, and passes to Springfield: it is much travelled. Besides these, there are two *oblique* roads across these ranges. One is from Albany, through Lenox, to Hartford, (Con.); the other is a stage-road from Hudson, through Sheffield, to Hartford: it crosses the west range, at considerable elevation, a few miles north of Taconick mountain.

CHESTER DEWEY.

Mr. EDITOR,

The following singular and amusing specimen of the quaint and conceited style of writing, and of the affectation of classical learning, which once prevailed among the scholars of an earlier day, is taken, strange as it may appear, from a venerable volume of law reports: it is the address to the reader at the commencement of the second part of Brownlow's Reports, and is offered

for the amusement of your readers. One would hardly suppose that Barrister Brownlow could have lived in an age which had already been adorned by Shakespeare and Bacon, and was about to witness the splendid displays of the genius of Milton.

“ TO THE READER.

Upon the strict survey of Natures Products, there is nothing to be found, whether in the bosome of its Causes, or in its Singularities, within the *Convexity* of the Universe, which being contemplated at an intellectuall distance, beyond the Magnetick *Effluvium* of our Senses, doth not *felicitate* with more certainty, *Nedum*, probability, as more obsequious to the Prototype of its projection, then MAN: the very Cronologie of whose Errors doth compute his *Existency*, an ingratefull returne for the dignity of his *Essence*, which unmolested and freed from the *Procacity* of his *Junior* and *Inferior* faculties, would have fixt him in the harmonious *Orbe* of his motion, and have secured him, as well against the scandall of a *Planetique*, as the *Eclipse* of his native glory: But alas! the doome is past, *Ex Athæniis in Barathrum*, hee's now benighted with Ignorance, *Phainomena's* and Verities; an *Ignis fatuus*, and a *Linck-boy*, are *Eodem calculo*; which condition imposes upon him something more then *Metaphorically*, the semblance of a *Moth-flye*, which is in nothing so solicitous, as in its owne ruine: Nevertheless had Privation in his Judgement been the onely losse, hee could then have undergone; but his *Poco di matto*, but his will, and too too cereous Potestatives, have Stigmatiz'd him in all his *habitudes*, *undiqueversum*, with a more reproachfull *Sobriquet* of *Vellacazo teso*, in which shameful state, forgetting his Constitutive Nature, and rudely breaking through his Divisive difference, he seems now to be lost, if perchance he is not found in the confused Thickets and Forests of his *Genus*; where measuring his actions (rather *Ausa furiosa*) by the Cubit of his strength, he giddyes himselfe into a *Maze*

of *Inquietudes*, shuffling the Malefactor and Judge into one Chaire, to make up the Riddle of all Injustice, because all things are Just; Hence was the no lesse opportune, then needfull *Venu* of Cicero's *Vir magnus quidem & sapiens*, &c. Hence the blissfull emergency of all *Laws*, the limittin *Repagula's* of his Insolency, and the Just Monuments of his *Depravity*: But *Hinc polydacrya*, he is yet so unwilling to forgoe his bainefull Appetite (Reasons too potent Competitor) that he is still perswaded he may safely act without controlment; though like a Partridge in a Net, he finds no other Guerdon for his Bussle, then a more hopelesse *Irretition*: And as if he were damned to be a Fury to himselfe, he will not admit that wholesome and thriving Councell, That Obedience to *Laws* is a much more thriving piece of Prudence then Sacrifice; and as much differenced as innocency, and guilt ignorant of its *expiation*. Whence I conceive by a just title, to keep the World from Combats, and the reward of vertue from Violation, the wisest in all Ages have had the priviledge, not onely of prescribing, but of coacting the orders of *Regiment* amongst others, who by necessary *Complot* have engaged for observance; which something seems to repaire the loss; yet so, as by our *Dianoeticks*, we have opportunity enough to see, and like the Satyre in the Fable, to feare, our *Idæated Humanity*, although in a more sublime contemplation, it may fall out otherwise, in respect that the *Law of Essences* are more certaine, and of a far more *facile* direction, then those of existency; which is so necessarily entituled to infinite Incertainty, from *Approximation* of *Accidents*, that it would now be an equal madnesse for the *Governour* to think he can, or the *governed* to fancie hee should, constitute *Laws*, *Adæquate* to humane *Velleity*, since the wills of no two Sons of *Adam* did ever *Mathematically* concenter, nor were ever two humane Actions shaped with parallel circumstances; which, as it seems necessarily to import the *deficiency* of the Rule, so also to imply the evident reason of

Debating and Reporting of Cases in our Law: And the denoting of Limitations in that of the Empire; which first, properly are, or (*a notatione*) at least should be, no other then *Exceptions* to the Rules generall, from a due consideration of *individuating* circumstances. For the Expediment of which knowledge, this *Gentleman*, the painfull Collector of these ensuing Relations, for his owne benefit, whilst yet living, and for the good of others, who by natures Decree should see his *Pyre*, did think it *Tanti* to make his Observations Legible: There now remaines nothing, but thy *Boni consule*, in which thou wilt oblige the Publisher to continue thy *Friend* in all like Opportunities.

R. M. Barr:”

Reasons for believing the Earth to be an Animal.

DEAR SIR,

I have often wondered at the egotism of that little thing called man, in locating himself at the head of creation. Were he as comprehensive and astute as he would fain be thought to be, there is reason to believe he must soon be cut short of all his usurped plumes. Could the peal of that thunder, and the glare of that lightning, which impresses him with so much awe, be construed into the infuriated rage and dreadful roar of some mighty living monster, how much more forcibly would he appreciate his insignificance! And should he extend his view a few steps farther, and see in that tremendous animal the very earth “in which we move and have our being,” to what a calamitous depth of degradation will he have reduced his high prerogatives! And has all our philosophy then arrived to this, that man is but a mere *animalcule*, infesting, with his brother tribes of the animal kingdom, the crevices and rugæ in the hide of that base creature whom we denominate Earth! Even so doth appear to be the truth.—Our reasons for believing the earth to be an *animal* are grounded upon analogy, a species of evidence which we are told by an illustrious and approved

authority in these matters, furnishes "a rational ground of conjecture and inquiry," differing from experience, that grand abutment of our logic, only in *degree*. On a comparison of what may be termed the attributes of the earth, with the characters of the animal kingdom, it would seem that this globe is deficient in no one particular, and even possesses more than the common allotment of those distinctive properties which are said to be essential to animality. They have only this very natural difference, that where they are developed in the earth, they are commensurate with her magnitude. Yet they have escaped the piercing ken of human observation; our perceptions apparently being confined within a certain range of objects, equally perplexed on the one hand by immensity, or minuteness on the other. Has not the earth *motion*, one of the most prominent features of life? Who has not dwelt with admiring rapture on the almost immeasurable, yet imperceptible rapidity of her flight! She has the very *tourbillon*, the whirligig or rotatory motion of many of the similarly-shaped animals of the zoophytical tribe. Has she not *blood-vessels*? What are those mighty rivers, the Wolga, the Danube, the Ganges, the Indus, the Nile, the La Plata, the Oronoko, the Hudson, the Mississippi, and the St. Lawrence, with their innumerable branches, but so many huge veins that pervade and ramify the superficies of her envelope! The ocean and the inland seas are so many receptacles or sinuses, in which are concentrated the circulating fluids previous to their admission, probably, into a still larger set of vessels, which communicate with some central point in the dark recesses of her interior. After all the boasted discoveries of naturalists, their exfoliations have scarcely penetrated into the bare corticle of her substance. As far as these researches have gone, however, it would appear, from the succession of strata we meet with, that this crusty covering or coat is, like that of most animals, of a laminated, or rather tunicated structure. The fathomability of inland seas and lakes

lead to the inference, that this stratified tegument underlays also the bosom of the deep, except where the latter communicates with the internal parts of the circulatory system. While

Each purple peak, each flinty spire
Shooting abruptly from the dell
Its thunder-splinter'd pinnacle,

are like the spines and processes on the body of the little sea-urchin, the mere prickles or tubercles jutting from her surface! It is almost pitiable to abase in this way, by "one fell swoop," all the admired effusions of poetry and romance that have resounded, for so many ages past, their encomiestic strains o'er the wondrous beauties of nature. Where then, too, are the mighty pyramids!

The cloud-capt towers, the gorgeous palaces!
The solemn temples!

They are indeed "like an insubstantial pageant," and little doth it matter if they "leave not a rack behind." Incomparably less durable, and infinitely less magnificent or vast, than the massive pillars of coral reared by the pygmy labours of the polype in the bosom of the ocean, they are yet the proud and arrogant monuments of human exertion, and the sublime mansions of human habitants! Nevertheless, those objects that we so presumptively group together under the common appellation of Works of Nature and Art, can never entirely lose their influence upon the human intellect. Though divested of much of their importance by the light of analogy, they still retain certain unalienable relations towards ourselves that can never be undermined. Thus their relations of magnitude, of proportion, of fitness, will, in all probability, remain immutable while the constitution of our mind preserves its susceptibility to beauty and sublimity. That part of the earth's coat which we call the alluvion, and which fills up the valleys and forms the banks and bottoms of lakes and rivers, and lines the coasts of seas, appears to be no other than a deposition or secretion, like the adipose and cellu-

for matter of *other* animals, to give her a convenient and elegant rotundity of shape.

The lofty pine, "fretted by the angry gusts of heaven," to the humble daisy that just lifts its head from the ground, are the *hairs* and *down*, of various figure, and strength, and size, that embellish and mat over the face of this globe. It is among these *puny bristles*, and on this *soft pubescence*, that the little animalcule Man "plays such fantastic tricks;" and makes the *shaggy forests* and *pimple mountains* of old Earth re-echo with his clamours! Were it compatible with my limits, I could here expatiate on the multitudes of other and larger animalcules, that nestle and procreate like a sort of epizootic or parasitic vermin, in the hairs and dandruff of old mother Earth. I might tell of those who, like Taenias, and Lumbrici, and Hydatids, roll about in her very blood, and revel upon her vitals! The sea-serpent, with his terrific contortions, would dwindle into the microscopic eel, and the monster Kraken and the spouting whale form but larger species of the same contemptible race. She is too immeasurably great, however, to evince the reaction of sensibility from the insect stings and mosquito turmoils of a class of existences so piteously insignificant! But let us recall to our reflection for a moment the countless myriads again that harbour in the substance of these very beings!

What a boundless field of inquiry here presents itself! Do we then see the links, can we mark the progression of that chain, whose extremes are concealed in awful mystery! *Is creation, then, but an involuted series of germs!* This is certainly correspondent to the *ordination of things*, and even to that *arithmetical or graduated action*, if I may so call it, of the human mind itself. The doctrine of equivocal generation rests upon a causeless base, a supposition at which the soul of man recoils with chilling horror! It is, besides, an idle and useless fantasy, if it be true that the earth itself is an animal.

The earth, too, perspires, and again absorbs the fluids that she had emitted, thus keeping good the round of circulation, as seen in "clouds, and vapours, and storms." If she has no distinct mouth at either of her poles, it is probable that her nutritive functions are performed entirely through the medium of her natural pores. It is difficult to say why she has been put, by some, in the feminine gender.

But our topic becomes too unwieldy to be dwelt upon in so small a compass. It swells too rapidly to be long gazed upon with steadiness. Hear the loud crash of her *voice* in the thunder "bellowing o'er the deep!" Hark, while she rolls along the sky with her sister spheres! It is the tremendous earthquake that ever and anon shakes the foundations of her frame, and giving vent to her dreadful fury, pierces with deafening din the remotest regions of eternal space!

Yours, &c.

TRISMEGISTUS.

Pronunciation of the Latin Language.

The following is extracted from the Gentleman's Magazine, published in London. The cause of complaint, which is the chief subject of the article, exists also in the United States; and the proposed *remedy* has frequently been suggested to several professors and learned gentlemen in this country. In fact, it is inconsistent to say that the Latin language is the universal language of the learned, so long as its *true pronunciation* is not universally adopted.

The rhymes of an angliciser or English latinist, are no rhymes to the latinist who pronounces the language correctly. However, in the remarks below, the subject is presented in a proper point of view; and while we offer it to the attention of our learned readers, we would also urge its importance.

K. N.

"I would observe respecting the *national disadvantage*, that while the latinists of all the other countries of Europe,

(notwithstanding some slight varieties of pronunciation) can mutually understand each other; the Englishman, when in company with foreigners, finds himself placed in the awkward predicament of being unable either to understand *their* Latin, or to make them understand *his*.

This serious disadvantage chiefly results from his persevering refusal to comply with the universal practice of the rest of Europe in the pronunciation of the first three vowels, A, E, and I, as if he were determined that the old description

—"penitus toto divisos orbe Britannos,"

should "*for aye*," (A E I,) hold good, even in language, as well as in Geographical position.

Hence, when continental scholars hear him speak Latin with his insular peculiarity of pronunciation, we need not be surprised if they should suppose him to be speaking in some barbarous, unintelligible jargon;—or, on the other hand, if they *suspect* that he seriously aims at speaking real *Roman Latin*, they must very frequently be at a loss to unriddle his meaning: how, indeed, can it be otherwise, when they necessarily mistake his A for E, his E for I, his *Vale* for *Veli*, *Rarum* for *Rerum*, *Dearum* for *Dierum*, *Bene* for *Bini*, *Spero* for *Spiro*, *Verum* for *Virum*, *Veto* for *Vito*, &c. &c. &c.?—for it were an endless task to notice the almost innumerable misconceptions likely to arise from his pronunciation of these two vowels alone, the A and the E.

But the evil ends not here. The I, as pronounced by him in *Divus*, *Vivo*, &c. is another source of embarrassment, though not (I grant) of immediate misconception; because foreigners in general can have *no* conception of what is intended by that sound, which is unknown to their ears; except indeed, that a German (having a similar sound in the diphthong EI in his own language) may be able to guess at the Englishman's meaning.

I say nothing of the U, though, in some cases, to be mistaken for I U: but, to

conclude on the subject, I would (with all due deference to those to whom deference is due) beg leave to ask—

Is it not matter of serious regret, that the British youth, who devote so considerable a portion of their best days to the acquisition of the Latin language, are not taught to adopt that very simple and easy pronunciation which might render it useful to them in those situations where it would prove *most* useful? I mean, in foreign European countries, whose vernacular languages they do not understand.

If once the heads of our universities were to issue their mandate for the adoption of the continental pronunciation of the A, E, and I, the example would be immediately followed in all our public and private schools; and the rising generation of English latinists would soon be qualified to hold converse with the latinists of any other country, to which business, pleasure, or accident, might conduct them.

If ever the subject should come under consideration, the T I before vowels (as in *Oratio*, *Gratia*, &c.) may also reasonably claim attention; for although the T, in such positions, is by some nations pronounced as T S, and by others as the soft S or C, the Englishman would be more readily and certainly understood by foreigners in general, if he pronounced it as simple T (*Ora-ty-o*, *Gra-ty-a*) than as S H; because, in the former case, his hearers would at least know what *letters* were intended, and thus would at once catch the sense, independent of the sound.

In the mean time, I do not conceive that this innovation, or rather, this restoration of the genuine sounds, can be liable to any valid or serious objections from those who are the most deeply interested in the question—our classical scholars, I mean; though it might perhaps prove not altogether palatable to another description of our fellow citizens who might be disposed to consider it as an odious *Shibboleth*, furnishing a too ready criterion to distinguish the real latinist from

the unlatined pretender, who attempts to quote or read Latin words or phrases which he does not understand.

Observations on the Latitude, the Earth being considered as a spheroid; by W. MARRAT, A. M. Teacher of Navigation, 39 Fulton-street, New-York.

As the drawing the parallel through the 45 degree of north latitude, which is intended to be the boundary line between the United States and the British settlements, is become a matter of dispute, the following remarks may serve to elucidate the subject. It would appear from the statements made by gentlemen engaged in the operation, that the latitude found by *observation* is not the true latitude. In books of navigation and geography, the earth is generally represented as a globe or sphere; and, according to Dr. Mackay, "the latitude of any place, is that portion of the meridian of that place which is contained between the equator and the given place." Dr. Bowditch calls it "the angular distance from the equator measured on its secondary, or the meridian passing through it." These definitions have no reference to the earth as a spheroid; but the latitude is, and always must be found, in practice, on the earth's surface; and the figure of the earth is not a globe, but an oblate spheroid. Others say, that "the latitude of any place on the earth, is equal to the altitude of the pole above the horizon of that place, measured on a meridian passing through the zenith of the place and the pole." La Place (*Exposition du système du Monde*) says, "La distance à l'équateur, depend de l'angle compris entre le zénith et l'équateur céleste, et cet angle est évidemment égal à la hauteur du pôle sur l'horizon; cette hauteur est ce que l'on nomme *latitude*, en géographie." In the very delicate operations for determining the length of a degree on the earth's surface, the height of the pole is always determined at each extremity of the measured arc, with the greatest possible accuracy; and

the *length of the arc*, at the extremities of which the pole is higher at one extremity than at the other, by *one degree*, is always esteemed the length of a degree on the surface of the earth. The latitude found by the pole's altitude agrees exactly with another method by which we ascertain the zenith distance, and then add or subtract the sun's declination as is shown in books of Astronomy. This latitude also agrees with the other celestial arcs or angles, and from it, the *azimuths*, *times*, &c. are deduced without any error.

Astronomers make use of the terms *reduced* latitude, and *corrected* latitude (see Delambre); but these have no reference to the observed geographical latitude under consideration. The latitude of the Observatory, at Greenwich, was found by more than one hundred observations of circum-polar stars, to a fraction of a second; and who ever imagined that this was not the true latitude? Or who will dispute that the latitude of the Observatory at Paris, is not truly found; or that the French astronomers have taken a false for a true latitude? The *reduced* latitude is sometimes called the *true* latitude, and it is so; and the observed latitude would give wrong results when referred to certain astronomical operations: it is also true in reference to the spheroidal earth; but no more so in the latter case than the observed latitude: both are true. Whatever the exact figure of the earth may be, that is, whether we use the eccentricity found by Sir Isaac Newton, La Place, or the more correct one of Dr. Adrain, the *reduced* latitude is easily determined; but in every case it will come out a different quantity. Adopting that discovered by Dr. Adrain, the *parallel required to be drawn*, would be in a parallel 12 1-4 miles to the north of the parallel passing through north latitude 45° 5' 22" 8-10. But is this the latitude as commonly understood by astronomers and navigators? and if the *new* latitude were adopted, should we not be under the necessity of reducing the latitudes of every other place upon the earth, to correspond with the latitude of the above parallel?

or else the latitude of this boundary parallel would not correspond with that of any other place on the earth; and what benefit would result from such an alteration of the latitude? The mariner, after having found his latitude by the usual method, would have to reduce it to the new latitude by this rule, "As the square of the earth's transverse axis is to the square of the conjugate, so is the tangent of the observed latitude to the tangent of the correction; which subtracted from the observed latitude, gives the corrected

latitude." For this extra trouble, mariners would not thank us. But is this *reduced* latitude more commodious, either at sea or land, than the observed latitude now in use?—No. Is the reduced latitude true, and the observed latitude false?—No. Can any good reason, then, be assigned why we should make use of the reduced latitude in preference to the observed latitude?—None: for it would in all cases be vastly more troublesome to determine, and have no advantage whatever over the other when determined.

ART. 7. LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

DOMESTIC.

ORIGINAL works recently published by the principal booksellers:

An Anniversary Discourse, delivered before the New-York Historical Society, December 7, 1818. By GULIAN C. VERPLANCK, Esq.

"Omnibus his niveâ cinguntur tempora vittâ."

VIRGIL.

"Heureux qui est digne de peindre la vertu. Je n'espere point l'embellir; elle est trop au dessus des ornemens frivoles de l'esprit—mais je lui rendrai homage. Je la presenterai dans sa majestueuse simplicité."——Thomas, *Eloge de D'Aguesseau*.

Catalogus Collegii Neo—Cæsariensis. Rerumpublicarum Fœderatarum Americæ Summæ Potestatis Anno XLIII.

Songs of the Temple, or Bridgewater Collection of Sacred Music. Sixth edition, improved and enlarged.

A Directory to the Holy Scriptures, for the use of Unfortunates under Confinement. By JOHN STANFORD, M. A.

"Search the Scriptures."—JOHN v. 39.

An Address delivered in behalf of the New-York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, before the New-York Forum, at the conclusion of a Volunteer Debate for the benefit of said Institution, December 24, 1818. By SILVANUS MILLER, one of the Directors. Published by order of the Directors, and for the benefit of said Institution.

Documents relative to Savings Banks, Intemperance, and Lotteries. Published by order of the Society for the Prevention of Pauperism in the City of New-York.

The New-York Selection of Sacred Music, compiled by F. D. ALLEN.

Report of the New-York Peace Society, at the Anniversary, Dec. 25, 1818.

Memoirs of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society, for Promoting Agriculture. Containing Communications on various Subjects in Husbandry and rural affairs. Vol. 4th.

The Christian's Monitor, or Practical Guide to Future Happiness; intended for the use of Roman Catholics in the United States. Under the approbation of Bishop Connolly. By the Rev. WM. TAYLOR, A. B. of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

The Printer's Guide, or an Introduction to the Art of Printing, including an Essay on Punctuation, and Remarks on Orthography; with a copperplate, exhibiting the manner of marking a Proof-sheet for the press, and a scale for calculating the expense of printing a work. By C. S. VAN WINKLE.

Minutes of the proceedings of a special meeting of the fifteenth American Convention for promoting the Abolition of Slavery, and improving the condition of the African race; assembled at Philadelphia, on the 10th day of December, 1818, and continued by adjournments until the 15th of the same month, inclusive.

An Examination into the expediency of establishing a Board of Agriculture in the State of New-York. Published by the New-York Corresponding Association for the promotion of Internal Improvements.

A List of the Post-offices in the United States, with the names of the Postmasters, the Counties and States in which they

are situated, and the distances from the City of Washington.

Foreign Works re-printed; some with Notes and Additions by American Authors.

The Life of Mrs. Mary Fletcher, relict of the late Rev. John Fletcher, Vicar of Meidely; with an engraving.

Edgeworth's Parents' Assistant, or Stories for Children. By Maria Edgeworth.

Florence Macarthy; a novel. By Lady Morgan.

Clarentine; a novel. By Miss Burney, author of 'Traits of Nature.' 2 vols.

The Fast of St. Magdalen; a romance. By Miss Anna Maria Porter. 2 vols.

— "Thou shalt leave
Each thing belov'd most dearly: 'tis the
last shaft
Shot from the bow of exile."

Carey's Dante.

A Dictionary of the English Language; in which the words are deduced from their originals, and illustrated in their different significations, by examples from the best writers. To which are prefixed, a History of the Language, and an English Grammar. By SAMUEL JOHNSON, L.L.D. With the addition of the Standard of Pronunciation established in WALKER'S Critical Pronouncing Dictionary. Vol. I. part 1, of the 4to. edition; and vol. I. part 1 and 2, of the 8vo. edition.

Descriptions of the Manners and Customs of the People of India; and of their Institutions, Religious and Civil. By the Abbe J. A. DUBOIS, Missionary in the Mysore. 2 vols.

A Course of Morning and Evening Prayer, for every day in the Month; to which is prefixed a Discourse on Family Religion. By JAMES BEAN, Minister of the Walbeck Chapel. First American, from the 12th London edition, carefully revised and adapted to the use of Christians in the United States.

A Scripture Help, designed to assist in Reading the Bible profitably. By the Rev. EDWARD BICKERSTETH; illustrated with 4 maps.

Ree's New Cyclopaedia. Vol. XL. part 1, being the 79th Number.

De Viris Illustribus Urbis Romæ, a Romulo ad Augustum. Ad usum Scholarum. Auctore C. F. SHOMOND, in Universitate Parisiensi Professore emerito. Juxta Novam editionem Parisiensem, anno 1817.

Works proposed to be Published.

By Samuel Huestis, of this city.—The Institutes of the Christian Religion. By JOHN CALVIN. Translated from the

original Latin edition, and collated with the Author's last edition in French, by JOHN ALLEN. Preceded by Memoirs of the Life of Calvin, by JOHN MACKENZIE.

"Take especial care, before you aim your shafts at Calvinism, that you know what is Calvinism, and what is not."

BISHOP HORSLEY.

[The publisher remarks, that "Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion, having ever been esteemed his best production, ought to be in the possession of every Christian." This is positive language. But a recommendation, signed by several reverend gentlemen, contains stronger terms:—"To those who are acquainted with the character and history of John Calvin, any recommendation of his works is superfluous. To those who are not, and we fondly hope they are but few, we take the liberty of stating, that the Christian World never has been blessed with an uninspired man of greater and more vigorous intellect, more fervent piety, and eminent holiness; more enlarged acquirements in human, but especially, theological learning; and more extensive usefulness to his fellow men, than this most illustrious reformer."]

A Sermon delivered on the Anniversary of the Western Education Society, at Utica, Dec. 31, 1818, by the Rev. Dr. NORTON. To which will be added, the Report of the Directors, and an Address to the Public.

Henry Wheaton, Esq. Reporter to the Supreme Court of the United States, is engaged in preparing for the press a Digest of the Decisions of that Court, from its establishment in 1789 until the present time; together with the Decisions of the Continental Court of Appeals in Prize Causes, during the Revolutionary War.

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF NEW-YORK.

At the anniversary meeting of this Society, held at the Society's Hall, in the New-York Institution, on Thursday, January 14, 1819, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President.

DE WITT CLINTON, L. L. D.

Vice-Presidents.

DAVID HOSACK, M. D. 1st.

SAMUEL L. MITCHELL, M. D. 2d.

JAMES KENT, L. L. D. 3d.

Counsellors.

JACOB MORTON, Esq.

GULIAN C. VERPLANCK, Esq.

CADWALLADER D. COLDEN, Esq.

JOHN GRISCOM,

Rev. FREDERICK C. SCHAEFFER, A. M.

JOHN WATTS, M. D.

ALEXANDER H. STEVENS, M. D.
WM. JAMES MACNEVEN, M. D.
JAMES EASTBURN,
REV. JOHN MAC VICKER, A. M.
VALENTINE MOTT, M. D.
JOSIAH O. HOFFMAN, Esq.

Corresponding Secretaries.

JAMES RENWICK, A. M.
JOHN W. FRANCIS, M. D.

Recording Secretaries.

JAMES STOUGHTON, Esq.
HENRY WHEATON, Esq.

Curators.

SAMUEL W. MOORE, M. D.
JACOB DYCKMAN, M. D.

Treasurer.

FRANCIS B. WINTHROP, Esq.

NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

At an election for officers of this Society for the ensuing year, the following gentlemen were duly elected:

President.

DE WITT CLINTON.

Vice-Presidents.

SAMUEL L. MITCHILL, M. D. 1st.
JOHN TRUMBULL, 2d.

Standing Committee.

PETER A. JAY,
ANTHONY BLEECKER,
JOHN G. FOGERT,
GULIAN C. VERPLANCK,
JOHN M'KESSON,
JAMES EASTBURN,
J. W. BRACKET.

REV. F. C. SCHAEFFER, *Librarian.*

LYMAN SPALDING, M. D.

Corresponding Secretary.

JOHN PINTARD,

Recording Secretary and Treasurer.

LIBRARY OF THE NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Several valuable and scarce volumes are missing, and various sets are broken. Those persons who have it in their power to restore the lost volumes, and all who have books from the Library, are requested to return them without delay, in order to enable the Librarian and Standing Committee to complete a proper arrangement, and a catalogue of the Library.—The Sub-Librarian, Mr. S. B. HUTCHINS, 91 Chamber-street, will attend at the Library-room, in the New-York Institution, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, from 3 to 6 o'clock, P. M.

No STRANGER can be admitted into the Library-room, unless introduced by a member of the Society, or furnished with a note from a member to the Sub-Librarian.

MEMBERS, and others who enter the Library-room, are requested to replace

all books which they may have taken down from the shelves.

The Sub-Librarian is directed to report every violation of the rules of the Library as soon as it is ascertained.

F. C. SCHAEFFER,
Librarian.

IMPORTANT INVENTION.

The Hon. WILLIAM J. LEWIS, Member of Congress, from Virginia, has recently invented a machine for propelling vessels of all sizes, from a small boat up to the largest ship of war. This machine is said to be more simple, and incomparably more powerful than any other hitherto invented; and tides and currents, instead of weakening, will increase its active power. Steam, weights, springs, horse, or manual power, can be used according to the size of the vessel. It will answer for the sea as well as a mill-pond. No wave can injure or destroy it.

MONUMENT.

The Corporation of this city have erected a Monument on the Battery, a few yards from the railing in State-street, and nearly opposite Bridge-street. It is a solid block of white marble, between three and four feet high, the top of which is a square surface, bearing the following inscription:

To perpetuate
The Site of the S. W. Bastion of
Fort George,
In 40° 42' 8" N. Latitude,
as observed by
Capt. JOHN MONTRESSOR, and
DAVID RITTENHOUSE,
In October, 1769,
The Corporation of the City of New-York
Have erected this Monument,
A. D. MDCCCXVIII.

FOREIGN.

R. Ackerman (London) has in the press, *High Quarrels with the Pope*. A Correspondence between the Court of Rome and BARON VON MESSENBURG, Bishop of Constance. In which the Bishop disputes the authority of the Pope in Germany; with an Account of his Endeavours, and every probability of Success, to effect a general *Reformation* in the *German Catholic Church*.

GERMAN LITERATURE.

Belles Lettres.

An early friend of Schiller's, Joseph Charles Mellish, Esq. now British Consul General to the Hanseatic Cities, and residing in Hamburgh, has just published, in a very elegant volume, *Poems in the*

German Language, which for poetical excellence, and the purity of the German, leave nothing to be desired, and only cause us to regret that their number is too small. Mr. Mellish lived in 1795 and the following years, at Weimar; enjoyed the friendship of Schiller, and the other great geniuses who then resided there, and contributed German poems to Wieland's "German Mercury," and other publications. At the same time he translated Schiller's *Mary Queen of Scots* into English, and also Goethe's *Masque Neoterpe*. After a lapse of 22 years, he now collects the fruits of his muse, which he has dedicated to the high-spirited Grand Duchess of Weimar, who is so highly revered for the courage she displayed toward Napoleon. His *Song to Schiller*, his *Ode on Schiller's death*, the affectionate lines to his wife, on Baroness Stein, (of an old family in Franconia,) his "Minstrel," admirably translated from Walter Scott's *Lay of the Last Minstrel*, will be read with pleasure by every German scholar. In the same volume, which is adorned with 30 well engraved vignettes, there are some good translations from the German and the Greek, and good Latin poems.

A new variety of Serpentine.

Mr. KELLERSTEIN, of Halle, Germany, has recently published a description of a

mineral, which he considers as a *variety of Serpentine*, and distinguishes by the name of *Weisser Serpentine*, (White Serpentine.) It occurs massive in different beds of Serpentine. Its colour is white, often without a shade of green. Fracture, even and dull. Fragments indeterminate, and not particularly sharp-edged. Difficultly frangible. A fatty feel. Its constituents are silica, magnesia, oxide of iron, alumina, lime, water.

Loss of Valuable Scientific Collections.

The collection of antiquities belonging to the Swedish chaplain fell a prey to the flames, which, in the conflagration of the month of March last, consumed the hotel of the Swedish mission, in Constantinople. These collections had been packed up in 11 large cases, since the year 1816: of these, only one was saved, which contained an Egyptian mummy. It was equally impossible to save from the fire about 800 volumes, composing the collection made by M. Lidman, of various classic authors in the ancient and modern languages, and a considerable number of Arabian manuscripts and others of the Cophts, which he had purchased during his travels in the East. M. Lidman arrived in Constantinople one month after the fire, where, instead of meeting with his treasure, he had to deplore the irreparable loss which he had experienced.

ART. 8. RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

DOMESTIC.

IN January the Rev. Henry Blatchford, late of this city, was installed as Pastor of the Branch Church, in Salem, Massachusetts.

The congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. S. C. F. FREY, in this city, has purchased the Church in Pearl-street, lately occupied by the Universalist congregation, and formerly by the English Lutheran Congregation. In this Church, which is now called "*The Independent Jew's Chapel*," the Rev. Mr. Frey officiates on Sunday, and several evenings in the week. Once a week he delivers "a lecture to his Jewish brethren."

DEAF AND DUMB.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman, to his friend in Boston.

DEAR SIR,

Being on a journey through the state of Connecticut a few weeks since, it

providentially happened that I should spend the Sabbath in Hartford. I attended worship in the Rev. Mr. Hawes' meeting-house, where it was communion day. In the course of the morning services, several candidates presented themselves for admission into the church; among whom was a young lady, a pupil in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum. The scene was peculiarly interesting. The Rev. Pastor observed to the congregation, that the case of Miss Fowler, the unfortunate candidate before them, was so peculiar, he felt himself bound to state, that she had for some time past manifested a strong desire to unite with the church under his care; that he had repeatedly examined her with respect to her acquaintance with the simple and important truths of the Bible; that she had ever given the most satisfactory evidence, not only of her knowledge of these truths, but also of their renewing and sanctifying in-

fluence on her heart, and of the purity of her motives in thus presenting herself to make a public profession of religion; that he viewed this instance of hopeful conversion to be a signal instance of the interposition of Providence in favour of the Asylum, and one that ought to call forth the deepest gratitude of all present. The countenance of the candidate evidently discovered that she deeply felt the solemnity of the occasion. She came forward with great composure, bowed her assent to the covenant which had previously been explained to her, received the ordinance of baptism, and then retired to her seat to partake of the consecrated aliment, all in a manner fully evincive of a realizing sense of the solemn vows she had taken upon her.

The scene was witnessed by a large and very respectable audience, who, together with the companions of the candidate in misfortune, were all deeply affected at a sight so novel and interesting. Never did I see so many tears shed on such an occasion. All felt abundantly rewarded for all their prayers, and charities, and labours, to build up this infant establishment.

While witnessing this most affecting scene, I could only regret that those, into whose hands the Lord has committed much of the silver and the gold, could not have been present to have had their

hearts *melted* with ours, and *opened* to contribute of their abundance to provide the means for the instruction and salvation of hundreds of our kindred and of our families, whose intellectual and moral powers are now chained in darkness. Little are the public aware how many parents there are around us, who have been called to weep over the son or daughter of their hopes, whose mind, by the hand of nature or disease, is for ever barred, as they have supposed, from all improvement in human or divine knowledge. O that those to whom God has given children perfect in all their senses and faculties, would feel for these parents, and cause their tears to cease, by casting in their mite to build up an institution so wonderfully calculated to raise these sons and daughters of suffering, to knowledge and usefulness in this world, and immortal felicity in the world to come. By aiding in this benevolent object, we surely are using the most efficient means for the introduction of that happy period, when "the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped; when the lame man shall leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing; when the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy on their heads."

Boston Recorder.

ART. 9. POETRY.

ADDRESS TO SLEEP.

BY THE LATE MR. CURRAN.

O SLEEP, awhile thy power suspending,
Weigh not yet my eyelid down,
For mem'ry, see! with eve attending,
Claims a moment for her own:
I know her by her robe of mourning,
I know her by her faded light,
When faithful with the gloom returning,
She comes to bid a sad good night.

O! let me hear, with bosom swelling,
While she sighs o'er time that's past;
O! let me weep, while she is telling
Of joys that pine and pangs that last.
And now, O sleep, while grief is streaming,
Let thy balm sweet peace restore;
While fearful hope through tears is beaming,
Sooth to rest that wakes no more.

BAGATELLE.

The maid in whose praise I come out
Is just under gay twenty-four;

The fact I've no reason to doubt,
For she's said so these three years or more

Her lip like a muskmelon sweet,
To taste would not sure be a fault;
And wit, as to heighten the treat,
From her tongue sprinkles true attic salt:

Her eye, like a candle, is bright,
And the locks on her brow all a-swirl,
As if the warm glances of light
Had frizzled the beautiful curl.

Her teeth, standing white, in display
The charms of her mouth seem to cap:
A botanist swore t'other day,
'Twas the counter to Venus's trap.

Her voice, when she sings unconstrain'd,
Is gentle, yet plaintively sweet;—
As if every note had complain'd
In leaving so blest a retreat.

The form of the dear lovely creature
With no boddice or corset is tied;—
She seems the chef d'œuvre of nature,
Except when I stand by her side.

Q.

ART. 10. MONTHLY SUMMARY.

EUROPE.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

IT is generally supposed that the population of this country has been increasing more rapidly during the last century, than that of the other countries of Europe. We believe, that with the exception of Spain, almost all the other states of Europe have increased at an equal, and some, such as Russia, at a much greater rate. Mr. Rickman, in the preface to the last population returns, states the population of England and Wales, in 1700, at 5,475,000, and in 1811, it was 10,488,000. In Sweden Proper, one of the poorest countries of Europe, the population in 1716, was 907,969. In 1816, Sweden Proper had 2,464,941 inhabitants. At the former period, too, Sweden had only 17 iron works, one allum work, one glass-house, one paper-mill, and eight manufacturing establishments. At the latter it had 560 iron works and mines, and 901 manufacturing establishments. We do not certainly exaggerate, when we say, that the population of Europe, notwithstanding all its wars, &c. has at least doubled during the last 100 years.

Government have already received on the new loan of 27,000,000*l.*, 5,450,000*l.* in money, and 14,933,000*l.* in exchequer bills, leaving between six and seven millions to be forthcoming.

In 1788, when Pitt came into power, the whole expense of government did not exceed 12,500,000*l.*; now the poor rates approach that sum.

The Manchester papers state, that the majority of persons who had turned out for wages, had returned to their employments, a part of the extra wages which they demanded having been paid, and a further advance promised, as the demand for particular articles of manufactures increased. According to the prices at present paid, the fine spinners, on large mules, say 300 spindles each, can earn from 30 to 35 shillings per week—on mules of 180 or 200 spindles, from 22 to 24 shillings. An advance of four shillings on the pound has been paid the weavers, though the papers mention that even the full advance demanded, 7 shillings, would not enable one weaver in twenty to earn 12*s.* per week. The fustian weavers had obtained their advance—they now receive 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb. for what they recently received but 1*s.* The dyers have had their wages increased 2*s.* per week; and they now receive from 12*s.* to 15*s.* per week.

The Queen of England died at 1 o'clock in the afternoon of the 17th of last November. Her disease (a dropsy) terminated in a mortification; and it is said she expired with great composure and without a struggle.

A part of the King's jewels, it is said, have

been missing since last June. No discovery in relation to them has yet been made.—Among the articles are, "The George, diamond sword, and invaluable button and loop." The fact that they were missing was not made public until since the death of the Queen.

The Earl of Mulgrave, in consequence of continued indisposition, has requested leave to resign the office of Master General of the Ordnance. The resignation was accepted by the council, and it was agreed to offer the vacant seat, if agreeable to the Prince Regent, to the Duke of Wellington.

From one of the late London papers, we have abstracted, from the official report, the following statement of the general head of expenditure of the British government, for the year ending on the 5th day of January, 1818.

On account of the National Debt.

For account of interest, - - -	1,29,166,084	12	8	1-4
For charges of management, - -	284,589	11	11	1-2
For reduction of national debt, - -	14,657,559	3	11	3-4
	44,108,233	8	7	1-2
For interest on exchequer bills, - -	1,815,926	17	8	1-4
For expenses of the civil list, - -	2,303,622	2	9	1-2
Civil government of Scotland, - -	130,646	3	4	
Other payments, in anticipation of exchequer receipts, (bounties for fisheries, manufactures, corn, &c.) - -	451,403	10	6	3-4
The navy, - -	6,473,062	13	8	3-4
The ordnance, - -	1,435,401	9	2	
The army, - -	9,614,864	4	9	3-4
Loans and remittances to Ireland and other countries, - -	33,272	18	7	
Issues from appropriated funds for local purposes, - -	42,685	7	4	1-4
Miscellaneous services at home and abroad, - -	2,466,483	1	7	3-4
	68,875,541	18	7	1-2

At the late assizes for Warwickshire, sixty-two persons were sentenced to death, five of whom were afterwards ordered for execution. Fifty-two were sentenced to various terms of transportation, and fifty-six to other punishments. Of 229 prisoners, of which the calendar consisted, nearly one half had not attained the age of twenty years.

It appears by a return presented to the

House of Commons, (and which was ordered to be printed on the 5th of June last,) that the number of criminal offenders committed for trial in England and in Wales during the last 13 years, has increased the last year to more than triple the number of the former year; that the number sentenced to death was nearly in that proportion; but that the number of executions was not one half in proportion to the number sentenced. The numbers were as follows:

	In the years 1805 and 1817.	
Committed for trial	- 4605	13032
Sentenced to death	- 380	1302
Executed	- 68	115

being one in five in 1805—and one in eleven in 1817.

The whole of the infantry of the British army of occupation, with the exception of the guards and the 52d regiment, (left in possession of the fortresses until the 15th instant,) have been embarked at, and sailed from Calais, in the short space of 72 hours. They are all safely landed in England.

The total number, including men, women and children, amount to very nearly 15,000 persons, besides 630 horses.

Intelligence has been received from the exploring expedition in the interior of Africa, under Major Gray. They reached Gaylam in seven weeks from Cayai, with the loss of Mr. Burton and one soldier, and were to remain there till the end of the rains.

FRANCE.

An ordinance of the king has been issued for calling from the classes—the *polite* “legitimate” phrase for the old and abused word “conscription—horrible French conscription”—a new army of forty thousand men. Each department is to furnish its number according to its population—one to every 723 persons of the whole population—or, allowing one-fifth thereof to be able to carry arms, one man out of every 146 persons so capable.

It is calculated, in a Paris paper, that the French monarchy contains 29,800,000 inhabitants, of whom 108,000 speak Basque, 900,000 speak the Kymrique, or Low Breton, 160,000 speak Italian, 1,700,000 speak German, and the remaining 27,000,000 speak French. It is also calculated, that of these there are 26,400,000 Catholics, 2,300,000 Calvinists, 1,100,000 Lutherans, 60,000 Jews, 2,000 Hertenhutiens, and 550 Quakers.

The king of France had convoked the Legislative Chambers for November 30. Of the fifty-five newly elected members of the Chamber of Deputies, forty are known to be decidedly ministerial. Among the opposition are Manuel Bedach, and La Fayette. Terneaux is elected in Paris, in opposition to Benjamin Constant. The French funds for the few last days had been rapidly recovering from the depression previously experienced. The king of Prussia left Paris

November 3, having been detained two days by indisposition. The Emperor Alexander arrived at Paris October 28, visited the king, and departed the same day.

SPAIN.

Intelligence from Madrid states, that the pope, in commiseration, as it is asserted, of the deplorable circumstances of the Spanish treasury, has allowed the king to make a temporary and contingent appropriation of part of the income of the church, by suspending the appointment to ecclesiastic dignities and benefices for the space of two years, and converting their revenues to the use of the government. Hardly ever, since the emission of French assignats, was national paper in a more depreciated condition than that of Spain. The consolidated vales are 40 per cent. below par; the non-consolidated 84 per cent.—that is, 100 are worth 16; and the loss on the ordinary vales is 75 per cent. The Cortes of Navarre have furnished (or promised) a supply of 800,000 piastres, (168,000*l.*) payable in five years.

Spain has issued, at various times, one hundred thousand, five hundred millions of [reals] royal vales—a sort of exchequer bills—which were promised to be redeemed, but are not; which bore an interest that has not been paid. A third part of these have been funded at 4 per cent. interest—the other two-thirds are indefinitely postponed.

Great efforts are making to send troops and munitions of war to America. It is said that 2500 infantry, and 300 picked artillery, will immediately sail from Cadiz to Havana.

Letters from Cadiz mention, that as a relief under the present exigencies, the Spanish government has determined to carry into effect a loan of eighty millions of rials, or 850,000*l.* sterling, but in a very curious manner. This loan is portioned out and allotted to the maritime towns, such as Cadiz, Alicant, Malaga, Barcelona, St. Andre, Bilbao, &c. where it is to be raised in certain ratios. To Cadiz four millions of rials, or 400,000*l.* have been assigned, and the rest in proportion to their size and commercial importance.

But it will be proper to convey some idea how these loans are raised in Spain, as our readers may then judge if that is the term to be applied to them. An order comes down to the Cadiz *consulado*, or Board of Trade, for example, purporting that a loan of four millions of rials must be effected in the city, for a special purpose. The president convenes the merchants, and the order is laid before them. Warm debates take place, and the council separates without any thing being done. The military governor urges for the execution of the royal order, and a list of merchants is made out; and according to their supposed wealth and traffic, a division of the whole sum takes place among them. The amount that falls on each is no-

tified to him ; and wo to him if he does not soon carry the money to the governor. So much for a Spanish loan in the present day.

GERMANY.

All the allied sovereigns, except the Emperor of Austria, had left Aix la Chapelle, to visit Paris. Some of their ministers remained to adjust minor matters.

The fortress of Valenciennes has been delivered up to France ; and, after a grand review of the army of occupation, the troops were withdrawing. Considerable desertions are said to have occurred.

We are not distinctly informed of what has been transacted at Aix la Chapelle, further than that which related to France. It is stated, however, that the high allies had refused to interfere between Spain and her colonies, but considered the *neutrality* of the European powers as suitable to the state of commerce which they wish to maintain with the new world. The affairs of Bavaria and Baden appear to be settled.

General Gourgou, who lately addressed a letter to the Archduchess Maria Louisa, begging her to interfere with the congress in favour of her husband and his master, is said to have received for answer to his application, a present of about 30,000 francs, and positive orders to address her imperial highness no more upon the subject.

The accounts from Frankfort state that the intended army of the Germanic Confederation is to consist of ten corps, the first, second and third, amounting to 94,822 men, to be furnished by Austria ; the fourth, fifth and sixth, amounting to 79,234, to consist entirely of Prussians ; the seventh to be formed of Bavarians, in number 35,600 ; the eighth corps is to be made up by the kingdom of Saxony 12,000, Wurtemberg 23,955, Baden 10,000, Hohenzollern 501, Lichtenstein 55, in all 36,511. The ninth corps is to consist of many contingents, viz. Electoral Hesse 5,400, the Grand Duchy of Hesse 6,195, Luxemburg 2,141, Nassau 3,028, Saxe Weymar 2,010, Gotha 1,857, Coburg 800, Meinungen 544, Hildburghausen 297, Anhalt Dessau 529, Anhalt Brinburg 390, Anhalt Goethen 325, Schwartzburg Sondershausen 451, Schwartzburg Rudolstadt 539, Reuss, eldest branch, 223, younger branch 522, Hesse Homburg 200, and Frankfort 479, in all 25,910. The tenth corps is to be made up in the following proportions: Hanover 13,054, Holstein 3,600, Brunswick 2,096, Mecklenburg Schwerin 3,580, Mecklenburg Strelitz 718, Oldenburg 2,178, Waldeck 519, Schaumburg Lippe 240, Lippe Depnold 691, Lubec 407, Bremen 485, Hamburg 1,298, in all 28,866. The whole army is thus to consist of 300,943 men.

PRUSSIA.

Mr. Alexander Humboldt having expressed a disposition to visit India, and the Indian Archipelago, the king of Prussia has placed at his disposition about 14,000*l.* sterling, to enable him to accomplish his object.

AFRICA.

BARBARY STATES.

A letter from Algiers says : Since the death of Aly there has been only one execution here ; it was that of his brother-in-law, an Arab of the name of Hagdi Mustapha, and his brother, a youth of 13 years of age ; they were both tortured for fourteen days, in various ways, got no sleep, and Hagdi was most severely bastinadoed. He received first 1000 strokes, and after that four or five hundred daily. After he had received 4,500 strokes, in this manner he was sent home, where he died two days after. The Turks feared this family very much, and have therefore extirpated it.

AMERICA.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Artigas still harasses the Portuguese at *Monte Viedo*. About the 1st of September, he had an engagement with them at three leagues distance from their lines, in which he captured 200 horses, and 50 or 60 men, with the loss of only one man.

Brazil.—Produce at Pernambuco is said to be scarce on account of the *conscription* of the country people, when bringing their articles to the city. They are seized upon for soldiers without the least ceremony—their houses are entered, and, without any previous notice, all the males are dragged off, and sent to distant garrisons.

SPANISH AMERICA.

Venezuela.—Lord Cochrane, in a frigate of 44 guns, with some other vessels, has arrived in the neighbourhood of Margareta. He was welcomed with great rejoicings. Brion, it was supposed, would immediately join him, and McGregor is said to have sailed from England with 3,000 men. When these all act together, the fate of the Spanish power over Venezuela and Grenada is sealed. The privateers are also very active, and have nearly annihilated the commerce under the royal flag. They are charged with committing many excesses. A Dutch frigate from Curacao, and a British frigate from Jamaica, are cruising to restrain them.

Chili is quiet. The patriot army therein is preparing for an expedition to Peru. The royalists had evacuated Talcahuana. The rich Spaniards of Peru are shipping off their effects, and many were embarking from Panama. It is understood that the patriots will strike at Lima, at once, as soon as they can get ready for the great enterprise, in which they have every prospect of being successful.

The following ports remained in possession of the *royalists* on the 1st of November, viz. Barcelona, Cumana, Valencia, Vittoria, Caraccas, Laguira, Porto Cavello. All the ports to the eastward of Cumana, were held by the *patriots*.

Accounts were received at Coquimbo, that on the 6th September, the royalists had evacuated Concepcion, after blowing up the

fortifications, &c. An illumination took place on the occasion. The expedition that had been fitted out at Valparaiso against Concepcion, had, in consequence, turned their attention to Lima, with redoubled vigour, and intended shortly sailing.

WEST-INDIES.

From the beginning of January, 1818, to the latter end of September last, there were exported from Havana 182,334 boxes of clayed sugars, and 532,550 arrobes of coffee. And imported in the whole year of 1817, 24,124 negro slaves.

NORTH AMERICA.

Canada.

The Montreal Herald says that Rouse's Point, on Lake Champlain, the key of that lake, the place at which we have erected a great fort, is found to be on the Canada side of line 45, as laid down by the commissioners appointed for that purpose.

We understand that the line has not been run yet.

UNITED STATES.

A statement of loans made in different places by the Bank of the United States, since its establishment, according to an official account rendered by the President and Directors to the Secretary of the Treasury:

At Philadelphia,	\$8,834,089 62
Portsmouth,	232,962 48
Boston,	410,257
Providence,	471,683 46
Middletown,	384,118 34
New-York,	1,913,884 35
Baltimore,	8,482,379 77
Washington,	1,505,963 75
Richmond,	2,608,170 93
Norfolk,	1,286,673 23
Fayetteville,	623,379 70
Charleston,	2,681,709 33
Savannah,	1,083,247 04
Lexington,	1,656,247 41
Louisville,	1,034,513 18
Chillicothe,	631,211 99
Cincinnati,	1,863,529 63
New-Orleans,	2,000,054 37
Pittsburgh,	1,008,254 50

The total amount of notes issued by the Bank and its branches, has been \$19,854,881, and the amount of said notes now on hand at the Bank and its branches, is \$11,184,189. So that there remain in circulation notes to the amount of \$8,670,692 only.

The following persons were, on the 4th of January, appointed by the stockholders to be Directors of the Bank of the United States for the ensuing year:—William Jones, James C. Fisher, John Sergeant; John Bolton, of Savannah; Joshua Lippincott, John Coulter, John Lisle, John Connell, Daniel Lamot, Gustavus Calhoun, Charles Chauncey, Joseph Dugan, James Schott, Henry Toland; Langdon Cheves, John Potter,

of South-Carolina; John Oliver, George Williams, George Hoffman, of Baltimore; and Archibald Gracie, of New-York.

William Jones has been unanimously re-elected president.

Since the report of the committee, Mr. Jones has resigned.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

Senate.

Thursday, Dec. 24th. Mr. Sanford presented the memorial of the New-York Society for promoting the manumission of slaves, and protecting such of them as have been or may be liberated; which was read and referred to a committee on the subject of slaves.

The bill making appropriations for the support of the navy, for 1819, and the bill for the relief of Renner and Heath, were read a second time and committed.

The Senate adjourned to Monday.

Monday, Dec. 23th. The Senate was employed in the consideration of executive business, with closed doors.

Tuesday, Dec. 29th. The same as yesterday.

Wednesday, Dec. 30th. The Senate resumed the consideration of the following resolution, offered by Mr. Roberts on the 29th inst. and agreed thereto:

Resolved, That the committee on naval affairs be, and they are hereby instructed to inquire whether the rules, regulations, and instructions for the naval service of the United States, communicated to the Senate by the message of the President, of the 20th April last, are conformable to the provisions of the act, entitled "An act to alter and amend the several acts for establishing a Navy Department," by adding thereto a Board of Navy Commissioners; and whether or not they inconveniently interfere with other acts of Congress, relating to the naval establishment, and how far they may appear to be expedient; and also whether any, and, if any, what legislative provision may be necessary to give them the force and effect of law.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of executive business.

Thursday, Dec. 31st. The death of a member of the other House being announced, the Senate adjourned till Monday next.

Monday, Jan. 4th. The following message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. J. J. Monroe, his private secretary.

To the Senate of the United States.

I lay before the Senate a report from the Secretary of State, accompanied with a copy of a letter from Governor Rabun, which was not communicated on a former occasion from that department.

JAMES MONROE.

Jan. 4, 1819.

The message and accompanying documents were read, and four hundred copies thereof ordered to be printed.

Mr. Mercer submitted the following resolutions, which were agreed to:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be directed to report to this house a copy of such instructions, if any, as may have been issued by his department, in pursuance of the act of Congress of 1807, prohibiting the importation

of slaves, to the commanders of the armed vessels of the United States, for the purpose of intercepting, on the coast of Africa, or elsewhere, such vessels as have been engaged in the slave trade.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to report to this house the number and names of the slave ships, if any, which have been seized and condemned, within the United States, for violation of the laws thereof against the importation of slaves, and if any negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour, have been found on board such vessels, their number, and the disposition which has been made of them by the several state governments under whose jurisdiction they have fallen.

Tuesday, Jan. 5th. Mr. Sanford, from the committee of commerce and manufactures, to whom was referred the memorial of the Governors of the New-York Hospital, reported a bill "to provide for the relief of sick and disabled seamen," which was read.

Wednesday, Jan. 6th. The bills more effectually to provide for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States, were reported by Mr. Burrill, from the judiciary committee, the former with, the latter without amendments.

Thursday, Jan. 7th. The bills to incorporate the Medical Society and Provident Association; the bill authorizing the Corporation of Washington to make certain streets; and the Rockyville Road bill, were severally read a second time, and referred to the committee on the District of Columbia.

The bill to extend the jurisdiction of the courts of the United States to cases arising out of the law of patents, was read a second time.

Friday, Jan. 8th. Mr. Johnson, from the committee on the public lands, reported a bill for adjusting the claims to land, and for establishing land offices in the districts east of the island of Orleans, which was read.

Mr. Goldsborough, agreeably to notice, obtained leave and introduced a bill to amend the charter of the City of Washington; which was read.

Monday, Jan. 11th. The bill prescribing the mode of commencing, prosecuting, and deciding controversies between two or more states, was, on motion of Mr. Crittenden, recommitted to the committee that reported it: and

Mr. Otis submitted the following motion for consideration:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to the Senate any information in his possession, and which, in his opinion, the public interest may permit to be disclosed, relating to the seizure and detention of the property of American citizens by the government of the island of Hayti, and the statement of any negotiation, or attempts at negotiation, to procure restitution.

Tuesday, Jan. 12th. Mr. Burrill, from the committee on the judiciary, to whom was recommended the bill prescribing the mode of commencing, prosecuting, and deciding controversies between two or more states, reported the same with an amendment, not affecting the principle of the bill.

The engrossed bill to enable the people of the Alabama territory to form a state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union, on an equal footing with the original states, was read the third time, passed, and sent to the other House for concurrence.

Mr. Morrow, from the committee on the public lands, reported a bill providing for a grant of land for the seat of government of the state of Mississippi, and for the support of a seminary of learning within the said state, which was read.

Wednesday, Jan. 13th. The bill to suspend, for a further limited time, the sale or forfeiture of lands, for failure in making the payments, was read the third time, passed, and sent to the other House for concurrence.

The President communicated to the Senate a letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting the annual statement of the expenditure and application of moneys drawn from the treasury, by the Secretary of War, for the military establishment, during the last fiscal year.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, so as to produce an uniform mode (by districts), throughout the several states, of electing electors of President and Vice President of the United States, and Representatives to Congress, which was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Thursday, Jan. 14th. Mr. Forsyth offered for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That the judiciary committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of prescribing, by law, the mode of quartering soldiers, during war, in the houses of citizens, when the public exigencies may make it necessary, and the mode by which private property may be taken for public use, designating particularly by whose orders property may be taken, the manner of ascertaining its value, and the mode by which the owner shall receive, with the least possible delay, the just compensation for the same, to which he is entitled by the Constitution of the United States.

The bill concerning the organization of the courts of the United States, for the establishing of a district supreme court, and the appointment of new circuit judges; ordered to a third reading.

Friday, Jan. 15th. Mr. Goldsborough, from the committee on the subject, reported a bill respecting the erection of an equestrian statue in honour of the memory of Gen. Washington.

Monday, Jan. 18th. The bill providing for the more convenient organization of the courts of the United States, was passed and sent to the House for concurrence.

Tuesday, Jan. 19th. Nothing important was done to-day.

Wednesday, Jan. 20th. No business of importance was transacted to-day.

Thursday, Jan. 21st. Mr. Williams, of Tennessee, from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill for the better organization of the military academy, which was read.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of executive business.

Friday, Jan. 22d. Mr. Tait, from the committee on naval affairs, reported the bill making appropriations for the support of the navy for the year 1819, with some amendments; which were read.

Mr. Stokes, from the committee on the post office and post roads, reported a bill to repeal that part of the act of 1813, regulating the post-office establishment, which provides that "contracts shall secure the regular transportation of the mail throughout each year;" which was read.

House of Representatives.

Thursday, Dec. 24th. On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before this House, if in his opinion the same should not be inconsistent with the public interest, copies of the correspondence, if any, between the Department of War and the Governor of Georgia, in answer to the letter of the latter to the former, dated on the first of June in the present year, communicated to this House on the 12th instant; and also the correspondence, if any, between the Department of War and General Andrew Jackson, in answer to the letter of the latter, of the date of 7th May, 1818, also communicated to this House on the 12th instant.

The engrossed bill to authorize the payment, in certain cases, on account of treasury notes which have been lost or destroyed, and the engrossed bill authorizing the election of a Delegate from the Michigan Territory to the Congress of the United States, and extending the right of suffrage to the citizens of the said territory, were read a third time, passed, and sent to the Senate.

The resolution from the Senate, directing a survey of certain parts of the coast of North-Carolina, was read a third time and passed,

And the House adjourned to Monday.

Monday, Dec. 28th. Nothing of importance was done to-day.

Tuesday, Dec. 29th. Mr. H. Nelson, from the judiciary committee, to whom had been referred the letter of the Sergeant at Arms, respecting the suit commenced against him by John Anderson, reported a resolution authorizing and requesting the Speaker to employ such counsel as he may think proper, to defend the suit brought by John Anderson against the said Thomas Dunn, and that the expences be defrayed out of the contingent fund of the House: which resolution was concurred in.

Wednesday, Dec. 30th. Nothing important was transacted to-day.

Thursday, Dec. 31st. The death of the Hon. George Mumford, from North-Carolina, being announced, the House adjourned till Monday next.

Monday, Jan. 4th. The Speaker laid before the House the following letter from the Secretary of the Treasury:

Treasury Department, Jan. 1, 1819.

Sir: I have the honour to transmit a statement of the exports of the United States, during the year ending the 30th September, 1818, amounting in value, in articles of

Domestic Produce and Manufacture, to

Foreign do. do. - - - \$73,354,437

19,426,696

\$93,231,133

Which articles appear to have been exported to the following countries, viz.

	Domestic.	Foreign
To the Northern countries of Europe,	\$1,554,259	1,081,424
To the dominions of the Netherlands,	4,192,776	3,022,711
Do. of Great Britain,	44,425,552	2,292,280
Do. of France,	10,666,798	3,233,791
Do. of Spain,	4,589,661	2,967,252
Do. of Portugal,	2,650,019	248,158

The Hanse Towns and

ports of Germany, 2,260,002 1,073,491

All others, - - - 3,515,355 4,915,589

\$73,854,437 19,426,696

I have the honour to be, &c.

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The letter, with its enclosures, were ordered to be printed.

Tuesday, Jan. 5th. Nothing of importance was done to-day.

Wednesday, Jan. 6th. The House went into committee upon the bill making appropriations for the support of the military establishment for 1819.

The bill in question embraces the following items of appropriation:—

For subsistence, (in addition to 200,000 dollars already appropriated,) 506,600 dollars

For forage for officers, 26,496 dollars.

For clothing, 400,000 dollars.

For bounties and premiums, 62,500 dollars.

For the medical and hospital department, 50,000 dollars.

For the quarter-master's department, 550,000 dollars.

For contingencies of the army, 60,000 dollars.

For arrearages, arising from a deficiency in the appropriation to pay outstanding claims, 100,000 dollars.

For fortifications, 500,000 dollars.

For making a survey of the water courses tributary to, and west of the Mississippi; also those tributary to the same river, and northwest of the Ohio, 6,500 dollars.

For the current expenses of the ordnance department, 100,000 dollars.

For the armories at Springfield and Harper's Ferry, 375,000 dollars.

For arming and equipping the militia, 200,000 dollars.

For the erection and completion of arsenals, to wit: for completing the arsenal at Augusta, in Georgia, 50,000 dollars; for erecting a powder magazine at Frankford, near Philadelphia, 15,000 dollars; for completing the arsenal and other works at Watertown, near Boston, 20,000 dollars; for completing the arsenal and other works at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, 5,000 dollars; for a levee round the arsenal at Watervliet, New-York, 6,000 dollars, for building a powder magazine at Baton Rouge, 20,000 dollars.

For cannon, powder, and shot, to fulfil existing contracts; for mounting cannon, and for purchase of lead, 191,200 dollars.

To provide for the payment of the retained bounty, and the per diem travelling allowance of pay and subsistence to soldiers discharged from the army in the year 1819, 92,500 dollars.

For the purchase of maps, plans, books, and instruments for the War Department, 1,500 dollars.

For fuel, maps, plans, books, erection of quarters, and other buildings, and for contingent expenses for the Academy at West-Point, 35,640 dollars.

For marking and running the boundary line of the several cessions of land made by the Indians, 15,000 dollars.

For the payment of half-pay pensions to widows and orphans, 200,000 dollars.

For the annual allowance to invalid pensioners of the United States, 368,039 dollars.

For the annual allowance to the revolutionary pensioners, under the law of March 18, 1818, 1,708,500 dollars.

For arrearages arising from a deficiency in the appropriation for paying the revolutionary pensions in the year 1818, 139,400 dollars and 85 cents.

For the Indian Department, including arrearages incurred by holding Indian treaties, 213,000 dollars.

For annuity to the Creek nation, under the treaty of 1802, 3,000 dollars.

Thursday, Jan. 7th. Mr. Livermore, from the committee on post-offices and post-roads, reported a bill to increase the compensation of the Assistant Postmaster-Generals, which was twice read and committed.

The House then resumed the consideration of the appropriation bill.

Friday, Jan. 8th. Mr. Tucker, of Virginia, from the committee on roads and canals, reported a bill to appropriate a fund for internal improvements; which bill was twice read and committed.

The House then took up the bill amending the military establishment of the United States.

Monday, Jan. 11th. The Speaker laid before the House three letters from the Secretary of the Navy, enclosing a statement of contracts made by the Commissioners of the Navy, during the year 1818; a statement containing the names and salaries of the clerks employed in the Navy Department, during the year 1818; and a statement of the expenditures and application of the moneys drawn from the Treasury on account of the Navy, during the year ending on the 30th September, 1818, and of the unexpended balances of former appropriations remaining in the Treasury on the 1st October, 1818; which were ordered to lie on the table.

The appropriation bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Tuesday, Jan. 12th. Mr. T. M. Nelson delivered a report from the committee on military affairs, accompanied with the following resolution:

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the United States disapproves the proceedings in the trial and execution of Alexander Arbuthnot, and Robert C. Ambrister.

Mr. Johnson, of Kentucky, also of the military committee, submitted a paper drawn up in the shape of the report, which, by a majority of one vote, that committee had refused, and the said paper was read. Afterwards, on motion of Mr. Cobb, both papers were referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

The bill making appropriations for the support of the military establishment for the year 1819, was read the third time; and the question on its passage was decided, by yeas and nays, in the affirmative, by a vote of 107 to 57.

Wednesday, Jan. 13th. Mr. Middleton, from the committee on that part of the President's message which relates to the illicit introduction of slaves, reported a bill "in addition to the act for the prohibition of the slave trade;" which was twice read and committed.

The bill authorizing the payment of a sum of money to the officers and crews of gun-boats 149 and 154, was taken up in committee, Mr. Desha in the chair, the blank filled with 5462 dollars, and the bill ordered by the House to be engrossed.

The bill to enable the people of the Alabama territory to form a state government, and the bill to suspend, for a further limited time, the sale or forfeiture of lands, for failure in completing the payments, were received from the Senate, severally twice read and committed.

Thursday, Jan. 14th. Mr. Smith reported a bill to amend the act "to continue in force the act further to provide for the collection of duties on imports and tonnage, and for other purposes," passed the 3d day of March, 1817; which was twice read and committed.

The bill authorizing the payment of a sum of money to the officers and crews of gun-boats 149 and 154, was passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Friday, Jan. 15th. The House, after some unimportant motions, resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on Mr. Harrison's bill to provide for the organization and discipline of the militia.

Saturday, Jan. 16th. Mr. Spencer, from the bank committee, reported, that the charter of the bank has been violated in the following instances:

1. In purchasing two millions of public debt, in order to substitute them for two other millions of similar debt, which it had contracted to sell, or had sold in Europe, and which the Secretary of the Treasury claimed the right of redeeming. The facts on this subject, and the views of the transaction entertained by the committee, have been already given.

2. In not requiring the fulfilment of the engagement made by the stockholders on subscribing, to pay the second and third instalments on the stock in coin and funded debt. The facts on this point are fully before the House, and they establish, beyond all doubt, 1st, that the directors of the bank agreed to receive, and did receive what they deemed an equivalent for coin, in checks upon, and the notes of the bank and other banks supposed to pay specie. This substitution of any equivalent whatever, for the specific things required by the charter, was in itself a departure from its provisions; but, 2d, the notes and checks thus received were not, in all cases, equivalent to coin, because there was not specie to meet them in the bank; 3d, that notes of individuals were discounted and taken in lieu of the coin part of the second instalment, by virtue of a resolution for that purpose, passed before that instalment became due; 4th, that the notes of individuals were taken in many instances, and to large amounts, in lieu of the whole of the second and third instalments, which notes are yet unpaid.

3. In paying dividends to stockholders who had not completed their instalments, the provisions of the charter in that respect were violated.

4. By the judges of the first and second election allowing many persons to give more than thirty votes each, under the pretence of their being attorneys for persons in whose names shares then stood, when those judges, the directors and officers of the bank, perfectly well knew that those shares really belonged to the persons offering to vote upon them as attorneys. The facts in respect to this violation are in possession of the House, and establish it beyond the reach of doubt.

This report was accompanied with a bill regulating the election of the directors.

Monday, Jan. 18th. Mr. Smith, of Maryland, from the committee of ways and means, reported a bill relative to the direct tax and in-

ternal duties, and a bill supplementary to the act "for the prompt settlement of public accounts;" which were twice read and committed. The House then proceeded to the consideration of the report of the military committee respecting the Seminole war.

Tuesday, Jan. 19th. The House was occupied to-day in considering the reports of the bank and military committees.

Wednesday, Jan. 20th. The House was employed as yesterday.

Thursday, Jan. 21st. The engrossed bill supplementary to the act to provide for the prompt settlement of public accounts, was read the third time, passed, and sent to the Senate.

The House then again resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Pleasants in the chair, on the report of the military committee on the subject of the Seminole war.

Friday, Jan. 22d. The bill from the Senate, "to provide for the more convenient organization of the courts of the United States, and for the appointment of circuit Judges," was reported by Mr. H. Nelson, without amendment, and referred to a committee of the whole.

The House again resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Pleasants in the chair, on the report of the military committee in regard to the conduct of the Seminole war.

ART. 11. DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

THE Legislature met on the 13th January ult. and proceeded to business.

The number of entries, at the custom-house in Boston, of vessels from foreign ports, during the year 1818, was 855, and the clearances to foreign ports, for the same period, were 574. The smaller number of clearances is to be accounted for from the fact that many vessels, bound to foreign places, proceed to other ports in the United States to take in a part or the whole of their cargoes, yet discharge their return cargoes here. Consequently the clearances coastwise exceed the entries. The whole number of clearances coastwise, during the year, was 2082, and the number of entries 1831. Of the foreign clearances, 50 are bound to ports beyond the Cape of Good-Hope.

NEW-YORK.

The Legislature of New-York met at Albany on Tuesday, 5th January. The republican members of Assembly, 75 in number, met on Monday evening, for the purpose of designating the several officers of the House. On balloting for Speaker, Wm. Thompson had 42 votes, and Obadiah German 33. It was then resolved, with one dissenting voice, "that this meeting pledge themselves to support William Thompson for Speaker of the House of Assembly." These proceedings are published under the signature of the chairman and secretary. Notwithstanding, on proceeding to the choice of Speaker in Assembly on Tuesday, Mr. Thompson had, on the first balloting, but 45 votes, Mr. German 43, Mr. Duer 26, and there were three scattering. A second, third, and fourth balloting were had with no better success for Mr. Thompson than before, and the Assembly adjourned. On Wednesday the ballots were taken for the fifth time, when Mr. German had 56 votes, Mr. Thompson 28, and 23 scattering. No choice being made, a motion was made "that Mr. Thompson be appointed Speaker;" and the question being taken by yeas

and nays, 73 names were recorded against Mr. Thompson, including above 30 who had "pledged themselves" at the caucus to support him, and there were 41 yeas. On a motion to appoint Mr. German, there were 67 yeas and 48 nays; and he was accordingly chosen.

On Wednesday, Governor Clinton delivered his Speech to the two Houses. He gives a full exposition of the affairs of the state, particularly of the canal, and the various public institutions, all of which, not excepting the State Prisons, he represents as in a very flourishing condition.

A subscription has been opened by the citizens of New-York, for a piece of plate, with suitable devices, to be presented to William Willshire, the English consul at Mogadore, as a testimony of their admiration and gratitude for his prompt and zealous benevolence in redeeming from slavery, and restoring to their country, Captain James Riley, and five of his companions, citizens of America.

The condition of the northern canal appears by the following statement, viz.

The excavation through the rocks at Whitehall-landing, for the locks, three in number, of 90 feet in length each, and 14 feet wide, embracing a lift of 26 feet, which reaches the summit level to Fort Ann, a distance of 11 miles, (excepting one small lift of four feet,) is nearly completed; and these locks will be finished by the first of October next. The earth excavation, made by Smith and Wheeler, is finished. The chambers for the locks at Fort Ann and Fort Edward are excavated, and a great part of the stone is collected. The lift at Fort Ann, to gain the summit level between Lake Champlain and the Hudson River, is about 24 feet, and the descent from that level to the Hudson, is about 30 feet. These locks are in such a state of forwardness, that it may be presumed they will be completed in all the month of September next. The excavation between Fort Ann upon Wood Creek, and Fort Edward upon the Hudson, a distance

of about 14 miles, is finished, with the exception of about two and a half miles. The culverts, waste weirs, and dams, are contracted for and are progressing; and but little doubt remains, that should the next season be ordinarily favourable, the canal between the lake and the Hudson will be finished, in all its parts, by the first of November next.

MARYLAND.

On the 4th of January, two negro men, on the charge of having robbed the mail, were committed to the jail of Baltimore county. The circumstances are as follow:—The careless driver, it appears, lost the mail bag out of the stage, which was found by the two negro men above mentioned. It appears doubtful whether they knew what it was when they found it, as they appear, we are told, to be very ignorant slaves. They contrived, however, to make their way into it by the aid of a knife, and finding it contained letters, they contrived to open these also, took from them about \$2,800 in bank bills, and then burnt the letters and the mail bag. We understand about \$2,000 of the money has been recovered: what has become of the remainder is not yet known.

It appears that the eastern section of the United States' turnpike road, extending from Cumberland, in Maryland, to Union-Town, in Pennsylvania, upwards of sixty-one miles, cost, including every expenditure, less than \$595,000, being per mile \$9,700 only—and in a report made on the subject, it is stated that the western section, or last thirty-six miles of the same road, cost \$616,000 upwards of \$17,000 per mile—making a difference of \$7,300 in the mile.

NORTH-CAROLINA.

Easly Bolan was committed to the jail of Fayetteville, on a charge of robbing the mail of the United States. Several halves of hundred dollar bills were found in his possession, which, with a variety of other circumstances, leaves but little doubt of his guilt.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

John Geddes, Esq. has been elected governor of South-Carolina. A resolution has been offered by the committee to appropriate the annual sum of \$200,000, for ten years, to internal improvements.

Major General William Youngblood, has been elected by the legislature Lieutenant Governor of the same state.

A bill has passed the Senate of South-Carolina, and passed a second reading in the House of Representatives, by yeas and nays, (yeas 73, nays 30,) repealing the laws of that state prohibiting the introduction of slaves.

GEORGIA.

We have before us an abstract of the goods, wares, and merchandize, of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the state of Georgia, exported from Savannah, in the year ending September 30, 1818—the

aggregate value is estimated at \$14,183,113 and 19 cents. Articles as follows:

25,828,273 lbs. upland cotton, to foreign ports, at 31 to 33 cents per lb.
3,246,057 lbs. ditto, coastwise.
2,141,121 lbs. sea-island cotton, to foreign ports, at 53 to 70 cents.
14,619 tierces rice, to foreign ports, at \$35 to \$43.
1,662 tierces rice, coastwise.
3,084 hhd. tobacco, foreign ports, at \$100 to \$110.
951 do. coastwise.
75,606 dolls. worth lumber, foreign ports.
148,037 do. all other articles, do.

LOUISIANA.

Account of tobacco and cotton exported from New-Orleans since the 1st of January to the end of September, 1818.

Tobacco.	hhd.
Hamburg	1,123
Bremen	1,998
Amsterdam	2,544
Rotterdam	626
Copenhagen	471
Middleburg	200
Stockholm	249
Gottenburg	172
Gibraltar	4,061
Do. and Alicant	560
Cowes, and a market	1,355
Falmouth, do.	1,452
Greenock	293
Liverpool	1,533
London	647
France, since the 1st November, 1817	2,774

	20,126
Coastwise	8,000

	28,126
Stock on hand	400

Total, 28,526

Cotton.	bales.
Liverpool	43,310
Clyde	4,651
Portsmouth	1,500
Havre	14,401
Bordeaux	5,241
Nantz	2,611
Marseilles	695

	72,409
Coastwise	8,000

	80,409
Stock on hand	1,000

Total, 81,409

MISSISSIPPI.

Advices from Fort Osage, inform us that the expedition had arrived at that place without accident, and would proceed one

or two hundred miles further up the Missouri this winter. Fort Osage is three hundred miles by water above the mouth of the Missouri, and is the present limit of our population to the west. The safety with which the expedition, consisting of ten boats, has ascended this stream, is an evidence that the danger of navigating that river is more imaginary than real. Several boats, carrying provisions to the Yellow Stone, have passed

St. Louis within a few weeks past; one of which has been lost in the Missouri, between St. Charles and Belle Fontaine.

KENTUCKY.

The dispute between General Adair and General Jackson, it is said, has been satisfactorily accommodated, through the friendly interference of the venerable Governor Shelby, of Kentucky.

ART. 12. CABINET OF VARIETIES.

(From the London Literary Gazette.)

HERMIT IN LONDON,

Or Sketches of Fashionable Manners.

No. III.

THE BLUNDERER.

THERE cannot be a better man than Sir Michael Marall. No one more obliging; nothing is kinder than his heart; yet no one on earth commits more unlucky mistakes in company. From these, he is reckoned a mere scatter-brain, a marplot, a quiz, and is often avoided. From these, he has got himself into very serious scrapes, and has lost his very best friends. Finally, from these unwilling errors, he, who of all men in the world, wishes most to please and to do good, scarcely ever opens his mouth without committing a blunder,—without giving offence.

Sir Michael is now fifty years of age; yet is he as thoughtless as when first I knew him, which is thirty years ago. As a proof of the confusion of his brain, he forgets daily to wind up his watch, sets it wrong afterwards, and is never in time any where. In his commonest concerns he is always under some misapprehension—some mistake; and in his conversation, he is sure to say or to do something out of time or out of place. If he meet a widower, he will invariably inquire after his wife. If he meet a lady who is divorced, he will (forgetting the circumstance) beg his respects to her husband. He not unfrequently asks unmarried ladies after their children; and people at variance, after their friend so and so. The many who do not know and pity this absence, or rather this confusion of his, consider that he either intends to hoax them, or to insult them. The few who are acquainted with his infirmity, fear to ask him to their house, lest he say or do something offensive to their company.

I remember one day when he made an appointment with me to ride together to see a cottage on the banks of the Thames: we waited a considerable time; at last he rung the bell, and asked why the groom did not bring his horses to the door? when, all

of a sudden, he recollected that he had lent them to a friend. Upon another occasion, he kept dinner waiting two hours at a friend's house, and upon flying in a passion at his coachman's neglect, he was informed that he had sent his carriage to bring home his little nephews from school. He lost an aunt's favour by outbidding her at a sale of china, which he did, thinking that she had an interest in keeping up the price of the article; and a rich cousin scratched him out of her will for speaking against Methodism, he having entirely forgot her religious persuasion.

But of all the unfortunate days of blunders that ever occurred, that was the chief on which I met him at dinner at the Marchioness'. Being in general two hours too late, and resolving to make amends for his usual failures, and never having dined at the Marquis's before, he arrived two hours before he was expected. The score of servants in the hall stared at him on his arrival, and then looked at each other—as much as to say, "Is he mad? what a queer genius this Sir Michael must be!" But the groom of the chambers, with his accustomed officious grin and low bow, said, mechanically, "My Lord will be down in ten minutes," and then placed his chair, bowed, and handed him a newspaper. He had time to spell every word of it. After which he took up a novel and went through it.

At length a powdered servant opened the folding-doors, and in walked the Marchioness. Sir Michael had never seen her before; but he was acquainted with her sister Lady Barbara, to whom the resemblance was striking. He rose up, and made his best bow; whilst the Marchioness smiled on him with her usual dignity and mildness. Cheered by this into self-confidence, he thus began: "I need not (bowing a second time) ask your Ladyship to whom I have the honour of speaking, seeing so strong a resemblance betwixt your daughter and yourself." "Daughter, Sir, I have none; you must mistake." "Probably—Madam—I may; I ask your Ladyship's pardon."

At this moment her elder sister, Lady Barbara, entered the room. "That, that, that lady, Madam, is the person I meant; I

took her for your 'Ladyship's daughter. Lady Barbara, your most obedient! delighted to see you look so well: indeed the likeness'—(Marchioness) "is that of a younger to an elder sister: my sister Barbara is three years older than myself (drily); but (with a smile of contempt) there is certainly a strong family likeness." "Oh! yes, beautiful! vastly like indeed! a strong—very strong family likeness, particularly about the eyes" (Lady Barbara squints dreadfully.) Here ensued a loud laugh of the two ladies. (Marchioness) "Do you think so, Sir Michael?" (Sir Michael perceiving the obliquity of the sister's eye) "No, my lady, not at all, not a bit!"

(Marchioness) "I am quite mortified to think how long you have been kept waiting. My Lord is not yet come from the House; and I am much later than usual myself, having been detained at Philips and Robins's." "I understand your Ladyship: yes, the two money lending attorneys; I know them well; hard dogs." "Not at all, Sir Michael, I mean the auctioneers." "Yes, yes, (all confusion) the auctioneers I mean."

(Marchioness) "I see that you have taken up that scurrilous novel, what think you of it?" "Beautiful! full of wit! how it cuts up the gouty alderman, pocketing the poor's rates! and the fat, gambling Marchioness" (the latter was herself.) (Lady Barbara, wishing to relieve him) "Hem! did you look at those trifles in verse? They are very trifles, but written merely at leisure hours, mere bagatelles composed on the spur of the occasion. What think you of them?" "Trifles, trifles indeed; mere bagatelles, as your Ladyship justly observes; quite below par; childish, very childish indeed; a catchpenny, no doubt." Lady Barbara—"Childish, as you say; very much below par; but no catchpenny, Sir; they are my composition, and were never sold, but printed for a few friends, more indulgent and partial than Sir Michael Marall,"—(the knight in an agony) "Pardon me, my Lady; my honour—"

"(The Marquis entered) "My dear Baronet, how are you? Why, you are come in time to-day. (Turning to the Marchioness) This is my very oldest friend." Her ladyship gave a contemptuous look, which said, *Je vous en fais mon compliment*.

The company now began to arrive briskly; carriages chased carriages down the street; and the thunder of the street-door was like a *feu de joie*. The Marquis now drew his friend aside, and said, "Michael, I am heartily glad to see you here. It is now three years since I met you at Newmarket. I have been to Naples and to Vienna since, and have got married. I am sorry that I had not an earlier opportunity of introducing you to the Marchioness; but you will find her at all times happy to see you."—Sir Michael. "No doubt; I read it in her countenance. A very sweet woman! a most interesting person! and I perceive that

she is as women wish to be who love their lords. Ha, ha, ha! yes, pretty far gone; there's no fear of the title's being extinct; no, no; I hope soon to have the pleasure of wishing you joy on the change of her ladyship's shape; very large indeed, but all in very good time."—Marquis. "Sir Michael, I hope that her ladyship's change of shape will not be so sudden as you expect; else must ill health be the cause. She is, I confess, rather corpulent, but is not so in the way which you imagine." Here he turned from him, and left him overwhelmed with shame—they had been married only three months.

Now entered Colonel O'Fagan, who, after making his obeisance all round, attacked the Baronet. "Sir Michael, you played me a pretty trick to-day; you promised to bring me here in your carriage, knowing as you do that one of my horses is lame; and here you are before me, after keeping me waiting an hour and a half."—"My dear Colonel, I ask ten thousand pardons; but it is my coachman's fault; he never put me in mind of it as I bid him, for my memory is most treacherous; 'tis entirely his fault; but he is an Irishman, and one must pardon his bulls and blunders sometimes; they belong to his country, and he cannot help them."—The Colonel, angrily, "Sir Michael, you are very polite; but here stands an Irishman before you, (born in London to be sure,) who never made a bull in his life, nor disappointed his friend." The poor Baronet was struck dumb, and sat silent until dinner was announced.

Defeat and diffidence took such possession of him at table, that he scarcely dared to open his mouth. At last the Marquis, seeing his consternation, endeavoured to draw him out, by saying, "Sir Michael, did you observe the sale of our old school-fellow's estate! it fetched eighty thousand pounds! should you have thought it worth as much?" "By no means, my dear Lord; and I was as much surprised to see the crim. con. business of Lady—(he was stopped by a look of the Marquis's)—I mean the death of old Lady—(another frown)—the marriage of Captain Bracetight to a mechanic's daughter." The crim. con. lady, whose publicity had been revived after lying dormant twelve months, sat opposite to him; the old lady's daughter, in deep mourning, was on his right-hand; and Captain Bracetight's brother was near the foot of the table!

"Each looked on the other, none the silence broke."

Sir Michael blushed and stammered, coughed, called for water, and hesitated. His next neighbour on the left addressed him; and he stuttered so in reply, that the other, who had an impediment in his speech, almost suspected that he was turning him into ridicule.

At the desert, four beautiful children were ushered in, walking by files in rather

a stage-effect way. They were the Marquis's nephews and nieces. His brother and sister were at table, and the children had been sent for as a recreation to them. Every one was eager to praise them, to extol their beauty, to enumerate their good qualities, &c. Sir Michael, after priming himself with a glass of hermitage "to bear his courage up," thought that he would be complimentary too: "What lovely children!" exclaimed he, fixing his eyes at the same time on their father, who is remarkably plain. "What lovely creatures!" repeated he, laying much emphasis on the word lovely. "Are all these children yours?" "So her Ladyship says," replied the husband; and there was nothing but blushes, smiles, surprise, and confusion round the table.

His last blunder was respecting Walter Scott. Being asked by a lady what he thought of that excellent poet, whom he had seen in his tour through Scotland, he replied, "Charming, charming; but 'tis a pity he is so lame." How do you mean? said Mrs. Freethink, a blue-stocking lady. Is it his poetry (continued she) or his person, to which you allude? "His person"—(here he recollected the lameness of the Marquis's brother! so, trying to recover himself, he recalled his words)—"not in his person, Madam, but in his poetry"—(reflecting on the beauty of his lines, and the public opinion, he recovered himself again by) "I—I—mean in both—in neither—upon my soul, I beg your pardon—I do not know what I mean." Here a general laugh could no longer be controlled, and he was laughed at by all present. He retired early; took French leave; went home; passed a sleepless night; and never returned to Doricourt House. The Marchioness has given orders to her German porter to say to the Baronet always, "*Madame n'est pas visible*;" and the whole family has dropped him.

The poor Baronet will at last be obliged to live the life of a recluse, as he will not be able to keep an acquaintance in the town; or perhaps he may end by some very serious consequences attending these habitual mistakes, for these unmeant insults are never forgiven, and, so weak are we, that many who can generously pass over and forget an injury, can never pardon the being degraded, or rendered ridiculous, whether it be intentionally or unintentionally—in joke, or in earnest.

THE HERMIT IN LONDON.

SUPERSTITIONS, APPARITIONS, &c.

What I have already said to you of Gustavus III, has probably excited many a smile at the weakness of the human mind. But the most singular is still to come! There was, at Stockholm, a Finnlander, named Biørnramm, who had an office in the Chancery, where he had to translate the Swedish ordinances into the Finland language; a

plain, modest man, who had nothing of the *charlatan* about him. Without any knowledge of chemistry and physics, he possessed one of the most singular talents that can be imagined. He opened fast-locked doors without any key or any smith's tool. He only put into the key-hole a pointed piece of wood, made the sign of the cross over it, spoke some words, and, in an instant the door sprung open! Highly credible, and by no means credulous persons, have assured me themselves, that they have been eye-witnesses of this. Great church doors, which had just been strongly fastened, flew open with much force as soon as he made use of his charm. The eye-witness only observed that B. had a brown polished stone in his hand, of an unknown composition.

The king heard a great deal of this very singular man, who, far from seeking to deceive, endeavoured to avoid celebrity as much as he could; lived in peaceful retirement, and, like a new Proteus, gave proofs of his talents only when compelled. Gustavus wished to be acquainted with him, and intimated that he would send for him, to convince himself of the truth or falsehood of the wonderful powers attributed to him, but informed him, at the same time, that he, (the king,) to guard himself against deception, would not acquaint him beforehand of the particular day or hour: he, however, let him know, (which might as well have been omitted but *relata refero*!) that an old ruinous church, in the neighbourhood of Gripsholm Castle, where, at that time, the court resided, was fixed on for the scene of this operation. From this moment strict watch was of course kept, that nobody should enter the church, in which divine worship had long ceased to be performed.

In the middle of the night one of the king's courtiers suddenly came to Biørnramm's door. B. is in bed. He must get up, and quickly dress himself, under the strictest watch of the king's messenger, get with him into the carriage; and they immediately drove off. They arrive early in the morning at Gripsholm. The king and five of his confidential attendants, and Biørnramm, go to the appointed church. B. said beforehand, that he would make a figure appear, which they should see one after another. The figure would appear to all of them with the same features, but to each in a different attitude. He had neither any instrument, (or at least any visible one,) nor any chemical ingredient. After repeating several unintelligible words, he takes the persons present, one after another, by the hand, and brings them into a corner of the church, and what do they see now? a human form standing upright and motionless, but with the eyes open, and every appearance of life. The figure seemed to be a youth of about 15 or 16 years of age, covered in a white garment, something similar to a priest's mantle. One of the specta-

tors saw only the upper half of the arm of this figure, another only the under half; from a third there was hid another part of the figure, as if a kind of mist alternately concealed a part of it from the eyes; but all six, on communicating their observations, agreed that they had seen a youth standing upright, clothed in white. B. could not have produced the successive changes by new processes; for as one of the spectators had contemplated the apparition at his leisure, (every one was allowed six or eight minutes, time enough to prevent any illusion of the senses,) B. led him by the hand back to his place, taking another in his turn to the corner of the church.

The youthful figure was surrounded by a radiant circle; but B. had expressly desired them not to come too near to it, and especially not to touch it, because the touch, as he was convinced, would produce a violent electrical shock. Every one obeyed his instructions. They at last all went away. The spectators, astonished at what they had seen, asked one another the *cui bono* of such a miracle; but could not deny it, and still less explain it.

In order to make you shake your head still more, my dear cautious, sceptical friend! I add, that I have heard all this related in a very small, chosen circle; and even by one of the six eye-witnesses, who is most certainly neither an anecdote hunter nor a visionary. The same Bichernramm possessed, as equally credible persons have assured me, several other gifts of this kind, of which he could himself give no account, and would say nothing more than that, "God had given them to him, and that they did not belong to the vain, arrogant men of learning, who pertended to know the reason of every thing." In fine, he was far from boasting of these wonderful gifts, displayed them unwillingly, and frequently refused requests of this kind, saying, "One must not tempt God." Sometimes, however, he yielded; and the following is an account, by an eye-witness, of what was then seen. "He placed a wooden table, without any metal about it, in the middle of a dark room; and on the table, three candlesticks, either of ivory or of china. When he had then spoken a few words, there issued from the joints of the doors and windows brilliant lights of many colours, which at first danced round the spectators, and then stood still upon the candlesticks, and spread such a light in the room, as if it had been brilliantly illuminated with wax tapers. At another time, he took steel and flint, and struck them together as one usually strikes a light, when there appeared a radiant figure, which was first visible in one corner of the room; at a second stroke, in a moment changed its place, and showed itself in another corner; and, at a third stroke, upon the ceiling."

I looked the relaters of these miraculous stories sharp in the face, to see if they were

raving, or if they wanted to make a joke of my credulity; but I am certain that neither was the case. It is equally difficult to deny these stories and to believe them; and the incredulous philosopher is not satisfied with merely doubting. The eye-witness whom I last mentioned, had, during this singular transaction, asked himself: *sogno o son desto?* I asked myself the same question, as he related it to me; and perhaps you will do so likewise, while you are reading this.

FRENCH VERSATILITY.

The celebrated column, in the Place Vendôme, at Paris, which Buonaparte erected, on the model of Trajan's pillar, with the cannon taken at Austerlitz, which were cast into a grand series of spiral relief, commemorative of his victories, and a Colossal Statue of the Conqueror to surmount the whole, is well known to the British public. The allies, on capturing Paris, were about to destroy this monument, but at last were satisfied with removing the statue, and the column still stands, a record of the warlike achievements of Napoleon and his armies. It might be thought puzzling to mould such stubborn materials into a compliment to the other powers of Europe, and to the restored monarch; but a Frenchman's ingenuity is equal to any thing in this way. One of the sides is without an inscription; and a clever fellow proposes that it should be filled up as follows:

A la paix de l'Europe
Et au retour du Roi légitime,
L'armée Française
Fait hommage de ses victoires
M,DCCC,XVII.

DECLARATION OF THE ALLIED SOVEREIGNS.

"Now that the pacification of Europe is accomplished, by the resolution of withdrawing the foreign troops from the French territory; and now that there is an end of those measures of precaution which deplorable events had rendered necessary, the Ministers and Plenipotentiaries of their majesties the Emperor of Austria, the King of France, the King of Great Britain, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of all the Russias, have received orders from their Sovereigns, to make known to all the courts of Europe the results of their meeting at Aix-la-Chapelle, and with that view to publish the following Declaration:—

"The convention of the 9th of October, which definitively regulated the execution of the engagements agreed to in the treaty of Peace of November 20, 1815, is considered by the Sovereigns who concurred therein, as the accomplishment of the work of peace, and as the completion of the political system destined to ensure its solidity.

"The intimate union established among the monarchs, who are joint parties to this system, by their own principles, no less than by the interests of their people, offers

to Europe the most sacred pledge of its future tranquility.

"The object of this union is as simple as it is great and salutary. It does not tend to any new political combination—to any change in the relations sanctioned by existing treaties. Calm and consistent in its proceedings, it has no other object than the maintenance of peace, and the security of those transactions on which the peace was founded and consolidated.

"The Sovereigns, in forming this august union, have regarded as its fundamental basis their invariable resolution never to depart, either among themselves or in their relations with other States, from the strictest observation of the principles of the right of nations; principles which, in their application to a state of permanent peace, can alone effectually guarantee the independence of each government, and the stability of the general association.

"Faithful to these principles, the Sovereigns will maintain them equally in those meetings at which they may be personally present, or in those which shall take place among their Ministers; whether it shall be their object to discuss in common their own interests, or whether they take cognizance of questions in which other governments shall formally claim their interference. The same spirit which will direct their councils, and reign in their diplomatic communications, shall preside also at these meetings, and the repose of the world shall be constantly their motive and their end.

"It is with such sentiments that the Sovereigns have consummated the work to which they were called. They will not cease to labour for its confirmation and perfection. They solemnly acknowledge, that their duties towards God, and the people whom they govern, make it peremptory on them to give to the world, as far as in their power, an example of justice, of concord, of moderation; happy in the power of consecrating, from henceforth, all their efforts to the protection of the acts of peace, to the increase of the internal prosperity of their States, and to the awakening of those sentiments of religion and morality, whose empire has been but too much enfeebled by the misfortune of the times. (Signed)

METTERNICH,	HARDENBERG,
RICHELIEU,	BERNSTORFF,
CASTLEREAGH,	NESSELRODE,
WELLINGTON,	CAPO D'ISTRA."

"Aix-la-Chapelle, Nov. 15, 1818."

COW-TREE.

Mr. Humboldt and his companions, in the course of their travels, heard an account of a tree which grows in the valleys of Aragua, the juice of which is a nourishing milk, and which, from that circumstance, has received the name of the *cow-tree*. The tree in its general aspect resembles the *chrysophyllum cainito*; its leaves are oblong, pointed,

leathery, and alternate, marked with lateral veins projecting downwards; they are parallel, and are ten inches long. When incisions are made into the trunk, it discharges abundantly a glutinous milk, moderately thick, without any acridness, and exhaling an agreeable balsamic odour. The travellers drank considerable quantities of it without experiencing any injurious effects; its viscosity only rendering it rather unpleasant. The superintendant of the plantation assured them that the negroes acquire flesh during the season in which the cow-tree yields the greatest quantity of milk. When this fluid is exposed to the air, perhaps in consequence of the absorption of the oxygen of the atmosphere, its surface becomes covered with membranes of a substance that appears to be of a decided animal nature, yellowish, thready, and of a cheesy consistence. These membranes, when separated from the more aqueous part of the fluid, are almost as elastic as caoutchouc; but at the same time they are as much disposed to become putrid as gelatine. The natives give the name of cheese to the coagulum, which is separated by the contact of the air; in the course of five or six days it becomes sour. The milk, kept for some time in a corked phial, had deposited a little coagulum, and still exhaled its balsamic odour. If the recent juice be mixed with cold water, the coagulum is formed in small quantities only; but the separation of the viscid membranes occurs when it is placed in contact with nitric acid. This remarkable tree seems to be peculiar to the Cordilliere du Littoral, especially from Barbula to the lake of Maracabo. There are likewise some traces of it near the village of San Mateo; and, according to the account of M. Bredmeyer, in the valley of Caucagua, three days journey to the east of the Caracas. This naturalist has likewise described the vegetable milk of the cow-tree as possessing an agreeable flavour, and an aromatic odour; the natives of Caucagua call it the milk-tree.

METHOD OF MAKING SALT IN THE GREAT LOO-CHOO ISLAND.*

Near the sea, large level fields are rolled or beat so as to have a hard surface. Over this is strewn a sort of sandy black earth, forming a coat about a quarter of an inch thick. Rakes and other implements are used to make it of a uniform thickness, but it is not pressed down. During the heat of the day, men are employed to bring water in tubs from the sea, which is sprinkled over these fields by means of a short scoop. The heat of the sun in a short time evaporates the water, and the salt is left in the sand, which is scraped up and put into

* Extracted from Captain Hall's "Account of a Voyage of Discovery to the West Coast of Corea, and the Great Loo-choo Island."

raised reservoirs of masonry about six feet by four, and five deep. When the receiver is full of the sand, sea water is poured on the top; and this, in its way down, carries with it the salt left by the evaporation. When it runs out below at a small hole, it is a very strong brine; this is reduced to salt by being boiled in vessels about three feet wide and one deep. The cakes resulting from this operation are an inch and an half in thickness.

AMERICAN WATER BURNER.

An apparatus called the American Water Burner has been invented by Mr. Morey, of New-Hampshire, who, after making many experiments, and employing various combustible substances, as tar, rosin, oil, &c. to mix with the steam, has brought his apparatus to perfection. The construction is very simple: Tar is intimately mixed with steam or vapour of water, and made to issue, with a force proportional to the pressure of the steam, from a small orifice, like that in the jet of a blow-pipe, and is there fired. The flame, although the combustible substances issue from so small an orifice, is as large as that of a common smith's forge, and is accompanied with smoke: when this flame is directed against the bricks in the back of a fire-place, they soon become heated to redness: if iron or steel filings be thrown into the flame, they burn with a sparkling brilliancy, similar to iron wire in oxygen gas.

A few experiments have been made to ascertain the effect of steam on burning bodies, and to learn whether it probably suffered decomposition when issuing, mixed with tar, from the jet of the water-burner.

If a jet of steam, issuing from a small aperture, be thrown upon burning coal, its brightness is increased, if it be held at a distance of four or five inches from the pipe through which the steam passes; but if it be held nearer, the coal is extinguished, a circular black spot first appearing where the steam is thrown upon it. The steam does not appear to be decomposed in this experiment: the increased brightness of the coal is probably occasioned by a current of atmospheric air produced by the steam.

If the wick of a common oil lamp be raised so as to give off large columns of smoke, and a jet of steam be thrown into the flame, its brightness is a little increased, and no smoke is thrown off.

If spirits of turpentine be made to burn on a wick, the light produced is dull and reddish, and a large quantity of thick smoke is given off; but, if a jet of steam be thrown into the flame, its brightness is much increased; and if the experiment be carefully conducted, the smoke entirely disappears.

If vapour of spirits of turpentine be made to issue from a small orifice, and inflamed, it burns, giving off large quantities of smoke; but if a jet of steam be made to unite with the vapour, the smoke entirely disappears.

The same effect takes place if the vapour of spirits of turpentine and of water be made to issue together from the same orifice: hence the disappearing of the smoke cannot be supposed to depend on a current of atmospheric air.

If the flame of a spirit-lamp be brought in contact with a jet of steam, it disappears, and is extinguished at the points of contact, precisely as when exposed to strong blasts of air.

Masses of iron of various sizes, and heated to various degrees from redness to bright whiteness, were exposed to a jet of steam: no flame appeared, as was expected, but the iron was more rapidly oxidated where the steam came in contact with it than in other parts. It is probable, if the water suffered decomposition in this experiment, and if the hydrogen was inflamed, its flame might not be observed when contrasted with the heated iron, a body so much more luminous.

The operation of the water-burner, then, appears to be simply this:—Tar, minutely divided, and intimately mixed with steam, is inflamed; the heat of the flame, aided by the affinity for oxygen of that portion of carbon which would otherwise pass off in smoke, decompose the water, and the carbon and oxygen unite; the hydrogen of the water, and probably of the tar, expand on all sides (and hence the flame is very large) to meet the atmospheric oxygen; water is recomposed, and passes off in steam; a degree of heat is produced, no doubt, greater than that which is produced by the combustion of the tar alone; and this heat is equal to that evolved by the combustion of a quantity of carbon which would otherwise form smoke.

The invention is ingenious, and may be found very useful in steam-boat navigation, where it has already been applied. Probably a saving of heat would be produced by condensing the products of this combustion, which might be effected to a certain degree by an apparatus of simple construction.

CURIOUS ACCOUNT OF A YEARLY FETE AT PISA.

(From *Milford's Tour*.)

"On the centre bridge is annually celebrated a festival, or sham fight, of great antiquity, between the inhabitants of each side of the town, who have grotesque arms, and are habited in the most fantastic costume. In their struggles of desperation for conquest, the combatants do not lie down and die, like the warrior in *Tom Thumb*, but the vanquished boldly and nobly jump over the bridge into the Arno; where they refresh themselves with swimming out of the reach of their conquerors, to the admiration of the fair umpires who are spectators. Boats are stationed on each side of the river, to make prisoners, or rescue the swimming vanquished, or probably, in fact, to prevent these

warriors being drowned. As these games are stated to be from remote antiquity, we may, if we please, conclude this *regatta* has its derivation from the *Naumachia* of the Romans, and the bloodless war on the bridge, from the Olympic games."

ROMAN EXECUTIONS.

When at Rome, I attended the execution of four murderers and highway-robbers, brought from the neighbourhood of Terracina. This sight was really so shocking to humanity, and I was so sensibly affected, that it has made a very strong impression on my mind ever since. The four unfortunate wretches were conducted in separate carts to a church, situated in the Piazza del Popolo, where, after devoting a short time to confession and prayer, one of them, with a rope round his neck, was conducted into the centre of the square, where a temporary gallows had been erected. He was attended by several priests, all masked, and over his eyes wore a black handkerchief. Having now arrived at the gallows (which differ but little from those used in England), one of the priests ascended the fatal ladder with him, uttering a prayer aloud to console him in his last moments; and keeping the cross close to his face for him to kiss during the whole time. Now comes the fatal catastrophe! Having fastened the rope to a large nail fixed at the top of the gallows, they pushed the culprit off the ladder; by the sudden jirk his neck was, no doubt, immediately broken: but the horror of the thing follows, when you observe two of the executioners jump on his body; the one fixing himself on his shoulders, the other pulling him by the legs, and suspended by them. By these means, disgusting as they appear, the struggles of death are quite imperceptible. In this manner the whole of the four were executed; and afterwards, before a large concourse of spectators, their legs and arms were cut off—a sight which made me shudder, although I had witnessed all the horrors of a field of battle! These limbs are afterwards hung up on a pole, on the spot where the robbery or murder was committed. The Romans are said to possess a taste for these horrible exhibitions.—Some well-dressed females were present on this occasion.

The following are extracted from Dr. Neale's Travels.

PROFESSIONAL VISIT TO THE SULTANA VALIDE.

After exchanging my shoes at the door for a pair of yellow slippers, *papouches*, we entered the royal apartments. On a mattress, or *minder*, in the middle of the floor, was extended a figure covered with a silk quilting, or *macat*, richly embroidered. A female figure veiled was kneeling at the side of her pillows, with her back towards the door of entrance, and the *Kistur Agassi* (a

hideous Ethiopian, the chief of the black eunuchs) beckoned me to kneel down by her side, and examine the pulse of the Sultana. Having complied with this request, I expressed a wish to see her tongue and countenance, but that, I was given to understand, could not be permitted, as I must obtain that information from the report of the chief physician. The most profound silence was observed in the apartment, the eunuchs and physicians conversing only by signs. The Hazni Vekeli (black eunuch, keeper of the privy purse) then took me by the arm, and turned me gently round, with my face towards the door of entrance, over which was a gilded lattice, concealing the Emperor Selim (III) who had placed himself there to witness the visit.

A SHORT NOTICE OF MUSTAPHA BAIRACTAR.

His whole life seems like a splendid dream, for he was first a pirate on the Danube, in a small boat manned with nine desperadoes, whose lives and fortunes he commanded. The courage and energy he displayed in this avocation, proved an introduction to the Grand Signor's favour, who appointed him *Bairactar*, or standard-bearer of Mahomet's green ensign, and finally, Pacha of Ruschuk, with an income of about 12,000*l.* sterling per annum. The duties attached to his Pachalik were, to exterminate his associates the pirates on the lower Danube, and to keep in check his neighbour the Pacha of Widdin, the far-famed Paswin Oglou. For this purpose he had disciplined and kept in pay a corps of 40,000 janissaries, chiefly Albanians. Gratefully attached to Selim, he, on the deposition of that ill-fated prince, marched to Constantinople to replace him on the throne. The cruel murder of Selim frustrated his generous intentions, but he had the satisfaction of deposing Mustapha the fourth, and of elevating to the throne Mahmoud the second, and of being himself appointed Prime Vizier. He died the death of a hero, by blowing himself up in a powder magazine, after having been betrayed at the disastrous feast of reconciliation with the janissaries at Kias Hane, on the 12th of November, 1808.

RENEGADOES.

It has been the constant policy of the Turks to encourage scientific Christians to embrace their religion and enter their service. Renegadoes of this kind were formerly much more numerous than in later times. But their places have been supplied by a class of adventurers chiefly French, like the Baron de Tott, who, without undergoing circumcision, or abjuring their religion, have rebuilt their fortresses and organized their dockyards. The only renegado who was at Constantinople in 1805, was an Englishman, named Baillie, whose Moslem title was Selim Effendi. This gentleman was, I believe, a native of Reading, in Berkshire, and had been in the service of

the East-India Company. During the embassy of Sir Robert Ainslie, Baillie, and another gentleman, on their return over land from India, arrived at Pera, and took up their residence at the inn. It was soon afterwards made known by their landlord to the ambassador, that being in very distressed circumstances, they had entered into a negotiation with the Porte, to embrace Mahometanism, and enter the Turkish service. Sir R. Ainslie had no sooner satisfied himself of the truth of this statement, than he sent for them, and very humanely extended to them the pecuniary assistance which they needed, together with many hospitable attentions, warning them, at the same time, against the fatal consequences that might attend such precipitancy. They promised to renounce their intentions, and in fact soon after embarked for England. But, within twelve months, Baillie returned to Smyrna, and having embraced Mahometanism in due form, assumed the name of Selim. Repenting soon after the step he had taken, he returned to England, but his friends now refused to acknowledge him, and finding himself an outcast in society, he returned once more to Turkey. Selim behaved kindly to him, created him Effendi, and afterwards an Emmera Hor or Equerry, and employed him as a civil engineer in the construction of paper-mills and barracks. He then presented him with a young Turkish wife; but the poor man was miserable, and his unhappiness was increased by the neglect he experienced after the death of Selim. In fine, being overtaken by bad health, and narrowly watched by his Turkish attendants during the severe fasts of Ramazan, his indisposition took a fatal turn, and he died a martyr to his new faith, and the reproaches, probably, of his own conscience; leaving his name and memory as a fatal monument and warning to his countrymen to avoid such a career.

ANECDOTE OF MR. SHERIDAN.

As Mr. Sheridan was coming up to town in one of the public coaches, for the purpose of canvassing Westminster, at the time when Mr. Paul was his opponent, he found himself in company with two Westminster electors. In the course of the conversation, one of them asked the other to whom he would give his vote? When his friend replied, "To Paul, certainly; for though I think him but a shabby sort of a fellow, I would vote for any one rather than that rascal Sheridan." "Do you know Sheridan?" asked the stranger.—"Not I, Sir" answered the gentleman: "nor would I wish to know him."—The conversation dropped here; but when the party alighted to breakfast, Sheridan called aside the other gentleman, and said, "Pray who is that very agreeable friend of yours? He is one of the pleasantest fellows I ever met with,

and I should be glad to know his name."—"His name is Mr. T——; he is an eminent lawyer, and resides in Lincoln's-Inn-fields." Breakfast over, the party resumed their seats in the coach: soon after which, Sheridan turned the discourse to the law. "It is," said he, "a fine profession: men may rise to the highest eminence in the state, and it gives vast scope to the display of talent; many of the most virtuous and noble characters recorded in history have been lawyers. I am sorry, however, to add, that some of the greatest rascals have also been lawyers; but of all the rascals I ever heard of is one T——, who lives in Lincoln's-Inn-fields."—"I am Mr. T——," said the gentleman.—"And I am Mr. Sheridan," was the reply. The jest was instantly seen; they shook hands; and the lawyer exerted himself warmly to promote the election of the facetious orator.

ANECDOTE OF CHARLES XII. OF SWEDEN.

Charles, who was naturally prodigal, observed no more economy at Bender than at Stockholm. Grothusen, his favourite, and treasurer, brought to him one day an account of fifty thousand crowns in two lines:—"Ten thousand crowns given to the Swedes and to the Janizaries, by order of his Majesty, and the rest spent by myself."—"That is frank," said the king; "and that is the way I like my friends to make out their accounts. Mullern made me read over several pages accounting for the sum of ten thousand franks; I like the laconic style of Grothusen better."

INTERESTING ANECDOTE OF S. ROMILLY.

The following anecdote of this revered and lamented man has come to us from a very respectable quarter. We give it publicly with the more pleasure, that it only tends to illustrate the mournful circumstances of his death, but casts an affecting and ennobling light on the moral excellencies of his character. It will perhaps be asked what anecdote of his life would not tend to make his memory more esteemed, and his loss more regretted? He commenced his career at the bar, a young man liberally educated, with those high principles of honour, and that susceptibility of amiable and generous sentiment, which distinguished his life; but without paternal fortune, and still more, with both his parents dependent upon his professional success. In this situation he became acquainted with a young lady, the charms of whose mind and person won his affections. His conduct was worthy of his head and his heart. He declared his sentiments to the object of his affections; but added, that he must "acquire two fortunes" before they could be married: the first for those to whom he owed his first duty—his parents; the second for her. The lady knew how to appreciate his merit and his motives, and their vows were mutually pledged to each other. He entered upon his career of profit and honour with the

assiduous energy which forms a chief feature of genuine talent. In a comparatively short period he realized a considerable sum, and with it purchased an annuity for his parents. Having put them in possession of this provision for their lives, he formally declared to them, that his obligations to them were now fulfilled, and he was about to enter into other relations, which must exclusively govern them in their turn. He began a second time with a fresh spirit—acquired “a second fortune”—all within a very few years—settled it upon her on whom he had bestowed his heart, and married her. To lose Lady Romilly after an attachment so formed, and after years flown away in the tranquility of domestic joys, disturbed only by the splendid pursuits of an ambition, synonymous with virtue, was one of those shocks which must be left, undefined, to the imagination of such as know what it is to feel. [London paper.]

ADVERTISEMENT

Stuck up in Charleston, South Carolina, and copied from a publication fifteen years since.

“He is run away agin mine littel plack horse, I rite him two days in mittle op te nite, an ven he vill not be stumping—he stumps as te Deefel was in it—in he trows me town—I have not sich fall since pefore I was pornt. I pye him of von Jacop Shintle Clymer. It have five vite feet pefore met oon plack snip on his nose, von eye vill look plue like glass. he is pranded met John Keisler Stranger on his pehind side py his tail.

“Whoever vill take up said horse and bring him to me top on mine house near Congeree, shall pay me two tollars reward, an if dey vill not bring mine horse agen, ‘I vill put te law in force ginst all te peeples.’”

PERSIAN AND DIPLOMATIC ASTRONOMY!

Russian Embassy to Persia.

Extract from the Journal of Captain Lieutenant Moritz Von Kotzebue.

Mirza Awdul Wehab, the second minister of the Schach, invited us the following day to dinner, but which, on account of the fast of Ramazan, could not take place before 8 o'clock in the evening. At an early hour he sent the ambassador a valuable present of Schiras wine, which sometimes resembles port, but is lighter, and has a very peculiar, agreeable, and aromatic taste. The minister had the politeness to borrow for us chairs, and knives and forks, that the ambassador might not be under the disagreeable necessity of eating with his fingers. The tables were very prettily laid out, and not as in the Persian fashion, hundreds of dishes piled upon each other, but the dishes were carried about, which was again another mark of politeness in him. After we had seated ourselves, nothing was touched till

the voice of the Mollah was heard without; upon this a box was given to the minister, from which he took a little opium, which the Persians use instead of a dram. The various dishes, sweet and sour alternately, did not indeed please our taste; no more did the bread, which is a cake of flour baked in the sun: however, the wine was very good, and that of Ispahan much resembles Madeira. After dinner we went to another tent, where coffee, without sugar, and tobacco pipes, which are a very important article in Persia, were presented to us.

The ambassador had the kindness to give me the undeserved name of astronomer, upon which the minister invited me to come to him on the following day, as he was himself a great lover of the mathematics and astronomy. The next day, accordingly, M. Nigri, the counsellor of legation, had the kindness to accompany me, as the usual interpreters would not have been able to translate such things. Knowing that the Persians are very fond of astrology, I thought I ought to give some astrological turn to the arrival of our embassy. It occurred to me that Jupiter stood now in the sign of the Scorpion; and I therefore first of all declared to the minister, that this planet represented Russia in extent and splendour, and that Asia was generally represented in Europe under the sign of the Scorpion; and as these were just now in conjunction, there was not the least doubt but that the friendship of these two nations was determined in heaven, and therefore agreeable to God. The minister agreed to what I said, and affirmed that the Persian astronomers had also found that the Russian embassy had arrived under the most favourable signs.

A corpulent Persian, who was the only one present during our conversation, sat at the side of the minister, and held a great book before him, the leaves of which he constantly turned over, and leered from time to time angrily at me under his great black eyebrows. The minister recommended him to us as a great mathematician, but I believe that he was an astrologer, who was to examine me. He turned over the leaves with still more violence, and whispered something to the minister; upon which the latter asked me, whence eclipses proceeded? I rose and walked round the corpulent astrologer, who looked angry and uneasy, and at first could not conceive what I would have of him. But he was still more frightened when I stooped down behind him, and asked the minister whether he could see me? The astrologer was corpulent enough to cover me entirely, and the minister therefore could not but say, no. Upon this I got up, and asked the astrologer's pardon for having made him act the part of our earth; but to the minister I said, that he represented in this moment the sun, I the moon, and the whole process, from which the astrologer could not yet recover himself, an eclipse of the moon. Hereupon I went between the

minister and the earth, and said to him, that the astrologer had now no more the happiness of seeing the sun, and consequently an eclipse of the sun was now taking place on the earth; but I could not represent a total eclipse, because the astrologer was a little too corpulent. The sun laughed, and the earth murmured. Thus it is impossible to please every body.

After the two gentlemen had played such flattering parts, they became proud, and affirmed that every thing seen in the heavens was only a meteor, because Jupiter, Saturn, and Venus, were the only stars which they recognized as bodies, and these, they said, were far more happy than our earth, as they were much nearer the sun than we, and were therefore much warmer. "With respect to Venus," said I, "you are right, she is much nearer to the sun than we are, or else we could not see her pass over the sun once every hundred years; but with respect to Jupiter and Saturn, they are much further from the sun than we are, and can therefore never be seen between the sun and us.

The astrologer, was already afraid that I might begin again the ceremony of an eclipse, agreed to every thing, and then opened in his book a large leaf, on which was painted a great he-goat with hieroglyphics: after he had looked at it several times with a pleased countenance, he asked me very seriously, what was, according to our opinion, behind the stars?—I told him that our astronomers were not agreed; but most probably behind the last stars which we could discover, there were other stars without end, and "if there were an end, this end was joined to a beginning, which however was without an end."

Here the goat fell out of his hand; he laughed with an air of triumph and wisdom, and observed, that such things were too difficult for the Europeans. He picked up his great book much pleased, and said, smiling, still turning over the leaves, "We will now say no more on this subject!" Who could be more pleased than I, for "without beginning and without end" was, I am sure, more unintelligible to me than to him.

He laid his hand on a page which was full of dots, and a million of little devils seemed to be painted between them; he asked, "What is wind?" I began an explanation of the more subtle and denser strata of air, which being more or less warmed by the sun in different places, might be put into a kind of undulation, which would probably produce wind, which most likely arose only in our atmosphere, because farther off there was a thinner air which we called æther, and—"What nonsense you talk," cried he aloud; "that is the way of the Europeans, they always puzzle themselves about causes and reasons, and thus lose sight of the subject itself.—Wind," said he, is a substance which exists and acts in and for itself, and

fills up all the space which is between all visible and invisible bodies: or else how could comets arise? These are the true purifiers of the wind; they fly about and burn every thing which might lessen or destroy the power of the wind, for the wind is a beneficial gift of God!"

The last opinion in the hot climate of Persia, where without the wind all the inhabitants must perish, is very natural. In the meantime he had himself tumbled over the leaves of his book like the wind, and at last dwelt with pleasure upon a page upon which were painted a number of globes, and at the top a hideous figure.—"What do you think of the motions of the bodies? Does the sun stand still, or does it move?" "It stands still," answered I. "There we have it! Do not you know the effects of the power of nature, which is singular in its kind? Nature gives to every thing only one power, never two at once, otherwise she would be unjust, and that she cannot be; if this power has once acted, nothing is able to increase or lessen its action, and much less to add a second to it. If you suppose that the earth turns round its axis, that is already one power; it cannot consequently turn at the same time round the sun; but if you suppose that the sun revolves round the earth, then the earth does not turn round its axis."—"In this manner," said I, "Nature has given to the earth the power of standing still!"—"Right; that is what we Persians affirm. You affirm the same of the sun, and are wrong. Every thing is created for the pleasure of man and the Schach; we are with the earth in the centre look gratefully on."

Upon this he shut his book, and said, "That these matters were of a sublime nature, and it was proper to spare the understanding for a future opportunity; meanwhile he would speak of things of less puzzling import, as, for example, of the mathematics." Now he showed me how to measure distances beyond a river, how to measure the elevation of remote objects, &c. upon which the minister said, that the Schach had once given him such a commission, which he executed wonderfully.

He seemed very much surprised on hearing that in Europe the little boys began geometry with such operations. Upon this I began to demonstrate a trigonometrical problem, but this the astrologer did not comprehend, and seemed in general to have no idea of Logarithms.

At the end I was obliged to relate to the admiring company various particulars of my voyage round the world,* of which two things seemed quite impossible to them; first, that I had been once their antipode, and that there existed finer countries in the world than Persia!

The minister thanked me for the agree-

* Captain Moritz Von Kotzebue accompanied Captain Krusenstern in his voyage round the world.—Ed.

able conversation, ordered refreshments to be presented, begged that I would often visit him, and we parted from the corpulent astrologer as good friends.

ANECDOTE OF A SPANISH WIDOW.

One day (said a foreigner of distinction) while I was on a visit to her excellency the beautiful and charming Duchess de Sainte P——, Madame de S——, the widow of an officer of the Walloon guards, came with a petition that she might be admitted by her Grace to the honour of an audience. The Duchess, on receiving this message, appeared to hesitate on the answer she should return, which induced me to request that I might be no impediment to her granting the interview solicited; on which an assent was immediately given, and soon after the lady appeared, dressed in the deepest mourning, and veiled from head to foot. This shade, however, she raised as (with an air of inconsolable grief) she approached the Duchess, and informed her that she had within a few days experienced the greatest of misfortunes in the loss of the best of husbands; adding, while a torrent of tears bathed her face, "as you must be sensible, Madame, nothing can be more deplorable than the situation of a poor officer's widow, since the queen and the Duke of Ripperda have persuaded the king to suppress their pensions. I am actually in danger of wanting bread, unless your excellency will take compassion on me, and relieve my distresses by marrying me to the lieutenant-colonel of the regiment." This petition was closed with sobs and sighs.

"I pity you most sincerely," replied the Duchess, "but I am quite at a loss to understand by what means I can effect your wishes, and oblige the lieutenant-colonel to accept the hand you are so willing to bestow on him."

"By the easiest in the world, Madam," eagerly returned the widow, "you have only to order the Marquis de Spinola, inspector-general, to grant me a formal permission to marry the lieutenant-colonel."

The Duchess then inquired whether any attachment subsisted between her and the officer with whom she wished to be united. "Ah! Madame," exclaimed the petitioner, with great animation, "I have long entertained for him a great affection, and I have no reason to doubt that he returns it, and will readily consent to be united to me when he knows it was my husband's wish, who knew of my partiality, that I should marry his friend."

It was impossible for the Duchess to preserve her gravity at this artless avowal of the fair mourner's plans and feelings; but, quickly softening her laugh into a smile, she graciously assured Madame de S—— of her willingness to serve her; but feeling, she added, that the speaking to the inspector-

general on the subject of the widow's wishes would come with more propriety from her husband than from herself, she would immediately repair to his excellency, and procure permission for her introduction to him, when she might plead her own cause, which her eloquence could not fail to give due effect. For this purpose her Grace quit the room.

As the Duke de Sante P—— was at this time confined with the gout, Madame was pleased at having an opportunity of affording him a little amusement at the expense of the widow; compensating, however, for so doing, by first obtaining a promise from her husband, that he would embrace her cause. Having prepared her lord for the smiles and tears, and melancholy graces of the afflicted relict, the Duchess returned to conduct her to his excellency, who had with him, when Madame de S—— entered, the minister at war, and another nobleman of the court. The widow, after gracefully bending to the Duke, repeated, with still stronger expressions of grief and agitation, the request which she had before addressed to her Grace. Various questions ensued on the part of the Duke, the answers to which were so well seconded by the fine bedewed eyes of the widow, that, turning to the minister of war, he requested, as a favour to himself, that he would forward her wishes. The minister, with great goodness, assured the petitioner he would instantly dispatch the required order to the Marquis de Spinola, and was taking his leave to perform this promise, when that nobleman most opportunely arrived to inquire after his excellency's health. The inspector-general was well acquainted with Madame de S——; but not suspecting the business which had brought her to the Duke's, accosted her with compliments of condolence on the irreparable loss she had so recently sustained, an officer for whom he expressed the highest esteem. This address again roused all her distressed feelings, and she poured them forth with such lively expression of sorrow that the Marquis de Spinola, who was not, like the other spectators, in the secret of her real feelings, was quite overpowered by his own, till the minister of war, seeing calm succeeding to this last burst of lamentation, thus addressed the sympathising inspector:—"The dead husband, Monsieur, is no longer in question; on the contrary, the subject under consideration is the procuring a living one, through whom the disconsolate widow may be restored to happiness and comfort. To you she looks for effecting this change in her present forlorn situation; and for this purpose solicits your permission that she may marry the lieutenant-colonel of the regiment to which her deceased husband belonged when living."

The Marquis de Spinola replied, "If the lieutenant-colonel solicits my consent, far be it from me to throw impediments in the

way of Madame's finding consolation for the death of one husband, in the arms of another." The widow then hastily departed, promising to return speedily—which she did, and, with a gay yet modest air, presented the Marquis de Spinola a letter from the lieutenant-colonel; on reading which, that nobleman courteously praised the taste shown by the writer in his choice of so amiable a lady, and at the same time complimented her on her dexterity in making an event which threatened to degrade her, the means of her elevation; with which compliment the fair petitioner appeared highly gratified. It was, indeed, a master-stroke on her part, in the success of which she had great reason to triumph. Nor did she attempt to conceal the pride and pleasure with which she glowed, but with much animation thanked all present for the good fortune they had joined in procuring her, and departed with a countenance from whence all traces of grief had vanished.

When the widow had retired, the whole party indulged in a hearty laugh, and some free animadversions on her sudden transitions from sorrow to joy. The Duchess compared her to the Ephesian matron; but the gentlemen were more indulgent, and the Marquis de Spinola, in particular, endeavoured to soften the indecorum of her conduct, by relating many instances of the correctness and amiableness with which she had performed all the duties of a wife.

The Duchess could not resist relating this adventure to the Queen of Spain, which created in her majesty a curiosity to see the principal actress in it, and the widow was accordingly introduced. On this occasion, the Queen took a malicious pleasure in questioning her respecting her deceased husband, and witnessing her theatrical display of extravagant grief.

Singular description of the Hospital for the Insane at Aversa, in the kingdom of Naples; extracted from the unpublished Journal of a Tour made in the year 1817, in the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

I had heard this establishment spoken of with praise; but being accustomed to meet with exaggeration in the good as well as in the evil, which travellers relate of the countries they have visited, I resolved to see the place myself. At eight o'clock in the morning I went to Aversa. After having traversed a short path, we discovered this modest edifice in the midst of the most smiling country. The bell called the people of the neighbourhood to mass, which is daily attended by the unhappy patients in the hospital. The holy ceremonies were just beginning as we entered. A part of the church was filled with people from the town and neighbourhood. In the choir and the side seats there were men of all ages and

conditions, almost all dressed in a uniform manner; in the middle were some young grenadiers; and in the front, a numerous military orchestra made the sacred roof re-echo with the most melodious sounds.—Every thing inspired meditation and devotion. My guide said to me, "Those whom you see silent and devout at the foot of the altar—those who are in military uniform, and who pay homage with their arms to the God of armies—those who make the temple resound with their harmonious concert, are so many victims to that dreadful malady which deprives man of the use of his reason: even he whom you see penetrated with respect and fear, assisting the priest in the expiatory sacrifice, is himself one of those unfortunate beings." It is not easy to express the surprise I felt, and the emotion excited in my mind by this terrible and delicious contrast of the wretchedness and the grandeur of the human mind. Divine service was over, but the agitation of my mind still continued. My guide perceived it, took me by the hand, and conducted me into a passage which leads from the church to the interior of the house. It is here, said he, that the inhabitants of the place repair to their usual occupations.

At a certain signal they all assembled at a place destined for the muster of the morning. My surprise was increased on beholding, that as they arrived in the middle of a spacious court, they all ranged themselves in a line in the peristyle which run round it. A profound silence prevailed when the director of the establishment appeared. On seeing him, I observed the most melancholy rejoice, and yield to the sweetest emotions of the heart. I fancied myself in the bosom of a numerous family, assembled in the morning round a tender father who loves his children. The Director, passing through the ranks which they formed, listened to the recital of their sufferings, the wants, the grievances, the dreams, the follies of each, and replied to all by words of peace and consolation. His words were like a talisman, which calmed their agitation, dispelled melancholy chagrin, and spread serenity and smiles on the most thoughtful and perturbed countenances. This kind of review being terminated, most of them went into the garden contiguous to the court. There several games were arranged, judiciously contrived to afford them a gentle and agreeable Gymnastic exercise, and to dissipate the gloomy thoughts in which they were habitually plunged.

While contemplating this kind of contest, I perceived that the presence of the spectators, and the natural desire of receiving the prize given to the victor, excited in their hearts a noble emulation. While many of the patients thus indulged in the pleasure of this wholesome recreation, others walked about in silence and avoided company; others declaimed aloud: here several of them were cultivating flowers; there

others stood immovable, and so plunged in deep reflection, that it seemed as if the fall of the edifice would not have roused them from it.

I had spent an hour in this manner, and was absorbed in the ideas which the sight inspired, when my guide invited my companion and myself to go to a high story. We ascended a magnificent staircase; at the top of which, an elegant vase, filled with fine perfume, diffused an agreeable odour through the whole building. On the right, two of our grenadiers stood sentinel before an arsenal of simulated arms. From curiosity, I put several questions to them, but could not obtain any answer, because they would have imagined they committed a great breach of discipline if they had broken silence.

We were then led into a large saloon neatly decorated, where we found several of the insane, who, like people in full possession of their reason, were passing their time agreeably in conversation, or in playing on the harpsichord and other instruments, singing pleasing songs, and hymns of gratitude in honour of the king, whose bust is set up between the statues of Piety and Wisdom, who place on his brow a crown offered him by the love of his subjects. In the adjoining apartment, some young men of distinguished birth, quietly amused themselves in playing billiards.

Astonished at the urbanity, the decorum, the tranquillity, and the politeness, of this unfortunate family, a stranger could not help saying to my guide, "Where then are the insane?" "Wherever you turn your eyes," answered he. The peace, the regularity, the good temper which you witness here, are the fruit of vigilance, of order, of a skilful combination of the different methods of promoting health, and of the happy application of the means pointed out by medicine, moral philosophy, and a profound knowledge of the human mind.

In more than one kind of mental derangement, the difficult art of administering medicines, and above all, that of prescribing the use of them, must occupy the first rank. Hospitals for the insane governed like places of confinement, or, like prisons, destined to secure dangerous patients who must be sequestered from society, are calculated but to multiply the kinds of victims whom they contain.

In this hospital the ancient rigorous treatment of the patients has been happily replaced by tender and affectionate cares, by the admirable art of gaining the mind, and by a mild and pliant firmness. Experience has soon demonstrated the advantages of this system, and every body acknowledges that it was inspired, not by the blind empiricism of ill judged pity, but by profound knowledge and enlightened reflections on the cause of madness and the means of curing it.

[The writer here gives an account of two eminent physicians, who came to begin a

series of Galvanic experiments, applied to certain species of madness very frequent in hospitals for the insane. After having chosen the patients, M. Ronchi, one of them, explained in an eloquent and concise manner the reasons which convinced him that the remedy seemed efficacious, and the hopes which might be conceived of it. Being witnesses to these experiments, we had an opportunity, says the author, of observing the effect which the Galvanic electricity produced on several individuals, a statement of which will throw the greatest light on the obscure art of treating the infinite variety of mental aberrations.]

It struck twelve, and the experiments ceased, it being the hour of dinner. As we proceeded to the Refectory, the Chevalier Linguiti, the other physician, pointed out the dark chamber, the floor and walls of which are covered with mattresses to confine the maniacs when the fit of phrenzy is on them; and the beds, on which the patients are placed in such a manner, that (the circulation not being impeded) it is impossible for them to injure themselves or others. He likewise showed us the strait waistcoats, which permit the insane to walk about at their ease, without being able to commit any excess; the apartment destined for the surprise bath; the theatre, where these unfortunate persons recreate themselves in representing musical pieces; and lastly, that of the puppets, where their minds are frequently diverted in a very beneficial manner.

I saw this whole family again assembled at table. Unhappily it was still too numerous, notwithstanding the frequent and daily cures which annually restore a great number of its members to the state, to their relations, to the arts, the sciences, and humanity. The bread, the wine, the meat, the soup, all the aliments, were wholesome, of good quality, well prepared, and well served up: tranquility, order, silence, were every where observed; but it was then that I first became sensible in what kind of a place I was. The continual agitation of the insane, the motion of their muscles, which is not interrupted in their moments of rage, the animal heat which in many of them is much increased, the extraordinary energy of their strength, sometimes excite in them an extraordinary voracity; and it was such, in some of these unfortunate persons, that they devoured their food like ferocious beasts, appearing insatiable, whatever quantity the kind Director set before them. Their physiognomy, their gestures, their secret murmurs, which would cause them to be taken less for men than for brutes, evidently proved that in these moments they were deprived of reason, and governed by instinct alone. A melancholy and painful sight, which cannot be beheld a moment without exciting the most sorrowful reflections on the dreadful evils which assail humanity.

Full of these gloomy reflections, I left Aversa to be in the evening at Naples, in-

tending to visit the next day the Royal Establishment for the Poor.

VIENNA.

It is long since any dramatic production (perhaps not excepting even the *Schuldt* itself*) has excited so much interest here as the tragedy of *Sappho*, by the author of the *Abfrau*. And what is still more uncommon, the approbation it obtained is almost universal, notwithstanding without the violent disputes which his first piece excited. *Sappho* is the general topic of conversation; but little is blamed, the greater part enthusiastically praised. The plan is extremely simple. At the Olympic games, where *Sappho* had gained the prize, she becomes acquainted with a young and beautiful *Phaon*, who has been long prejudiced in her favour by her reputation and the charms of her poetry, and who has come to Olympia for the sole purpose of becoming acquainted with her whom his enraptured soul has long represented as the model of female dignity. He now sees her no longer indeed in the bloom of early youth, but still attractive enough to realise his ideal for a moment. She is charmed with his beauty, his homage; she attaches herself to him with all the ardour of her soul, takes him to *Sestos*, and desires to share with him whatever she possesses. *Phaon* soon finds that he is out of his place: he feels himself oppressed, and like a stranger. In these moments of mental struggle, he sees the young blooming and modest *Melytta*, *Sappho*'s female slave, who is only fifteen years of age. An attachment takes place between them; *Sappho*'s jealousy is excited; *Phaon*'s ingratitude rends her mind; her passion carries her too far, she forgets herself and her dignity, and gives to her situation a degree of publicity, which must injure her in the eyes of her countrymen and of the world. This rouses her from her stupor; she exalts her mind by the contemplation of her glory, forgets a passion which was unworthy of her, pardons *Phaon* and *Melytta*, unites them, soars once more to the gods in a sublime Ode, and then, in the sight of the people, throws herself into the sea from the promontory of *Lincali*.

The most profound passion and the tenderest feelings, the dignity of tragedy and the charms of the Idyl, alternately delight us; the three unities are strictly observed; the two female characters, *Sappho* and *Melytta*, though in the strongest contrast with each other, both excite a powerful interest each in its own peculiar manner; and a dignified language and beautiful ingenious imagery complete the charm.

This is the general sketch of the whole as it appears to every spectator. But to me it seems that there is a more profound, a more

hidden meaning in the piece, which, like a melancholy bass, accompanies the full and pure harmony of the whole, in many places is clearly heard, and in most, nay nearly in all, is felt.

This is the idea, that art does not make its votaries happy; that the divine gift of poesy places those endowed with it on a solitary eminence, far from the pleasures and joys of humanity, nay, even far from the purer blessings of friendship and of love. This is evident, from the melancholy complaints of *Sappho*, who, with her exalted feeling, is a stranger in the world by which she is surrounded—from *Phaon*'s excuse for preferring the simple *Melytta* to the great poetess,

To gods be rev'rence, and to mortals love—

and from numberless other passages. An afflicting remark, if it were true; but as experience and reflection convince us of the contrary, our minds receive a melancholy impression, that the poet has drawn, not so much from observation as from his own wounded heart, that heavenly flame which beams inspiration—his work, painfully consumes himself, and that he suffers, while we revel in the enjoyment which he procures us.

HAIL.

The learned and ingenious doctor *Hook* gives the following account of a wonderful shower of hail, which fell in London, in the year 1680.

On the 19thth May, says he, "at about half an hour after ten it began to grow very dark, and thundered, and soon after there began to fall a good quantity of hailstones, some of the bigness of pistol bullets, others as big as pullets' eggs, and some above two inches and a half, and some near three inches over the broad way; the smaller were pretty round, and white like chalk, the other of other shapes. Breaking many of them, I found them to be made up of orbs of ice, one encompassing another; some of them transparent, some white and opaque. Some of them had white spots in the middle, others towards the sides. Those which exceed in bigness were formed by an additional accretion of transparent icicles, radiating every way from the surface of the white ball, like the shooting of nitre or toothed sparre. These in some stood, as it were, separate, in distinct icicles, which were very clear and transparent, and had no blebs or whiteness in them. Others were all concentered into a solid lump, and the interstices filled up with ice, which was not so clear as the *Stiria*, but whiter, and the one side, which I suppose was the uppermost, was flat, and the radications appeared to proceed from the ball in the middle; the edges and top were rough, and the ends of the *Stiria* appeared prominent. From the manner of their figure, I conceive their accretion was formed by a congelation of the water as it fell, that the small

* For a particular account and critique of this interesting tragedy, see *Literary Gazette*, No. 4.

white globule in the middle, was the first drop that concentered into hail; this, in falling through the clouds beneath, congealed the water thereof into several coats or orbs, till they came to the size before mentioned." Upon this curious passage Mr. Derham has affixed the following note.

"I myself, says he, saw them falling, in

great numbers, in Great Lincoln's-Inn-fields, on the 19th May, 1680, one of which a servant brought me in his hand, as large as a turnip, and of the same shape, which I instantly measured with a string, and found the compass of the widest part to be above thirteen inches. I did this with great care and could not be mistaken."

ART. 13. REPORT OF DISEASES.

Report of Diseases treated at the Public Dispensary, New-York, and in the Private Practice of the Reporter, during the month of December, 1818.

ACUTE DISEASES.

REMITTENT Fever, 3; Continued Fever, 23; Ephemera, 1; Infantile Remittent Fever, 5; Phlegmon, 4; Ophthalmia, 3; Inflammation of the Ear, 1; Inflammatory Sore Throat, 5; Malignant Sore Throat, 1; Hives or Croup, 1; Catarrh, 13; Bronchitis, 1; Pneumonia, 23; Pneumonia-typthodes, 3; Hooping Cough, 4; Inflammation of the Liver, 1; Jaundice, 1; Rheumatismus Acutus, 4; Erysipelas Phlegmonodes, 1; Varicella, 1; Rubeola, 2; Hæmoptysis, 1; Vomitus, 2; Dysentery, 1; Convulsio, 2; Spasmi, 2; Dentitio, 1.

CHRONIC AND LOCAL DISEASES.

Asthénia, 3; Vertigo, 5; Cephalalgia, 6; Dyspepsia et Hypochondriasis, 7; Gastrodynia, 5; Colica et Obstipatio, 10; Hysteria, 2; Palsy, 2; Asthma et Dyspnœa, 3; Catarrhus Chronicus, 9; Pulmonary Consumption, 7; Chronic Rheumatism, 12; Pleurodyne, 2; Lumbago et Sciatica, 4; Hæmorrhœis, 2; Menorrhagia, 1; Dysmenorrhœa, 3; Amenorrhœa, 4; Hysteralgia, 1; Graviditas, 4; Cessatio Mensium, 1; Plethora, 2; Leucorrhœa, 3; Dysentery Chronica, 2; Anasarca, 3; Ascites, 2; Vermes, 5; Tabes Mesenterica, 2; Syphilis, 9; Urethritis Virulenta, 7; Phymosis, 2; Hernia Inguinalis, 1; Fistula in Ano, 1; Amaurosis, 1; Tumor, 2; Contusio, 4; Stræmma, (Sprain,) 3; Luxatio, 1; Fractura, 3; Vulus, 5; Ulcus, 7; Abscessus, 2; Ustio, 5; Pernio, (Chilblain,) 2; Scabies et Prurigo, 4; Porrigo, 3; Erythema, 1; Psoriasis, 1; Lepa, 1; Aphthæ, 2.

The weather of December having derived its principal character from S.W.W., N.W., and northerly winds, has consequently been dry, and in point of temperature has partaken of the mildness of autumn, and the cold of extreme winter. The month commenced with a fine pleasant day, and in the evening a few flashes of lightning were observed. On the afternoon of the 4th the heavens became obscured by a succession of clouds from the south, and the night of the same day was marked by a southeast storm of the greatest violence, the wind

blowing a continual gale, and with such impetuous force as to be productive of considerable damage to the shipping. The succeeding day was also cloudy, windy and sometimes a little rainy. The weather was afterwards clear and pleasant until the 11th, which was accompanied by some rain, followed in the night by about two inches of snow. The winter now set in with a severity and uniformity of cold dry weather, seldom before known to have occurred so early in the season; and snow fell again in small quantity on the morning of the 16th, and about two inches in the night of the 23th. The concluding part of the month was of a more moderate temperature, and the two last days were attended by a little rain. The whole quantity of rain that has fallen and of melted snow does not amount to more than one inch on a level: and indeed the rain not only in this interval, but for several months past has been so scanty that many springs, wells and ponds never before known to fail, have become dry.—The thermometrical range has been from 11° to 51°. Mildest day the 5th; coldest the 17th. Highest temperature of the mornings 42°, lowest 11°, mean 26°; highest temperature of the afternoons 51°, lowest 19°, mean 33°; highest temperature of the evening 44°, lowest 20°, mean 31°. Average temperature of the whole month 30°. Greatest variation in 24 hours 18°. Barometrical range from 29.22 to 30.63 inches.

From the extensive range, and sometimes sudden fluctuations, of temperature experienced during this period, an increase of indisposition might have been naturally expected; yet, owing perhaps to the general dryness of the weather, the results do not appear to have been unpropitious to health, at least not in a degree proportionate to the extremes of atmospheric temperature, which has affected not so much the *quantum* as the *character* of diseases. Of all the obvious qualities of the atmosphere, cold is certainly productive of the most extensive catalogue of evils; but universal experience shows that it is much less pernicious when attended by a dry, than when accompanied by a moist constitution of the air. The occurrence of frosts affects more especially the organs of respiration, and accordingly *catarrhal* and *pulmonary* disorders have been frequent, and next to these *febrile* com-

plaints have held the most conspicuous rank in the class of acute diseases of this month. Inflammatory Sore-throats and Hives have from their number also excited some attention. *Rubeola* and *Varicella* have been met with only in sporadic cases; but *Pertussis* still proves fatal to a few children, and the deaths from *Phthisis*, as recorded in the Bills of Mortality, are numerically higher than has occurred in any other month of the year. This latter complaint being in general the *sequela* of some previous disorder, its increase of victims in the present instance may be considered as one of the disastrous effects resulting from the many cases of Catarrhal and Bronchial disease that have occurred in the last two months.

Considering the season, rheumatic affections have not been numerous; but in a few cases the disease has been observed in its most acute form, where the patient appeared to be tied as it were to a bed of torture, uneasy in every posture, and yet afraid to stir from the excruciating pain produced by the slightest movement. In these, after large and repeated abstractions of blood, the most favourable results were obtained from the use of calomel combined, as recommended by Dr. Armstrong, with opium and antimony in proportions sufficient to allay pain and excite a gentle perspiration. Mercury, by its very general and steady action upon the system, and more especially upon the extreme vessels, by which all the secretions and excretions are promoted, is certainly a most powerful remedy in equalising the circulation and excitability, the equilibrium of which is evidently destroyed in rheumatic as well as in other febrile affections.

Typhus has increased in frequency notwithstanding the reduction of external temperature, but in most cases the infectious origin of the disease could be clearly traced. Active purgatives in the first instance are still found to be among the most efficacious remedies in arresting the progress of this fever; and in the inflammatory and congestive forms of the disease we have in several instances employed the lancet with decided advantage. Active depletions, however, and more especially abstractions of blood, are to be had recourse to only in the early stages of the complaint. We are far from asserting that bloodletting is proper in every form of typhus, or that the evacuent process alone is the main pivot on which remedial agency must turn. There is even reason to fear that the practical indications arising out of the pathological principles of many modern writers may lead to dangerous extremes in vascular depletion; but at the same time it is much to be regretted that the opposite mode of treatment is yet pursued by some, that Brunonian Excitation still has its advocates, and that all ideas of vascular or local irritation and organic disturbance are too often merged in attention to

the doctrines of that so much dreaded debility.

Having in these reports completed the period of another year, it may not be improper to subjoin a few general remarks on the state of the weather and diseases.

The year set in with fine weather, though we had in January and February occasional falls of snow, hail, and rain; yet, on the whole, the winter was dry, and at times extremely cold. The 9th, 10th, and 11th of February, were the most severe days, the mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer falling to within two degrees of Zero. March commenced with stormy weather, and, indeed, with the exception of the last ten days of May, the whole spring was cold, wet, and cheerless. The summer season was characterized by the prevalence of a temperature more elevated than usual, and the months of June and July were very dry. On the three last days of June the thermometer ranged from 90 to 93 1-2 degrees; and a heat the most ardent prevailed from the 8th to the 17th of July inclusive, the temperature on one of these days being as high as 98°, or according to some observations, 100° in the shade. These excessive heats continued, with little alteration, until towards the close of August. In September we had also some hot sultry days; but, in general, the constitution of the atmosphere was very unequal, rapid fluctuations of temperature, fair intervals, and stormy or boisterous weather, reciprocally succeeding each other. In October and November the weather was in general pleasant and seasonable, but remarkably dry; and the temperature continued sufficiently mild until towards the middle of December, when the winter set in with great severity.

From a review of the state of diseases during the past year, we consider the city to have been, on the whole, healthy. The number of deaths, indeed, as recorded in the New-York bills of mortality, amounts to several hundred above the aggregate of the preceding year; but this may in some measure be accounted for by the great increase of population, and particularly the influx of foreigners, many of whom being unaccustomed to the occasional heats of our climate, were suddenly cut off, and contributed to swell our bills of mortality. Small pox also carried off a few in the beginning of the year; and *pertussis* was epidemic among children during the summer and autumn; added to which, typhus fever has extensively prevailed, and within the last year has proved fatal to not less than 263 persons. Besides these, the prevailing diseases have been such as are ordinarily connected with the different seasons of the year.

JACOB DYCKMAN, M. D.

New-York, December 31st, 1818.